

## INSIDE TODAY

### U.S. NEWS

#### FLA. IMMIGRATION



Luis Morales, 16, right, is comforted by his mother Adela, as Luis weeps during a vigil in support of Immigration Reform for the undocumented parents that have been separated from their families in Miami, Monday, July 26, 2010. Luis' father Luis Morales was deported to Nicaragua approximately one year ago. Associated Press

*Read more on Page A3*

### SPORTS NEWS

#### SEEING REDS



St. Louis Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina, reacts after hitting a home run off Cincinnati Reds pitcher Jonny Cueto in the second inning of their baseball game in Cincinnati Tuesday Aug. 10, 2010.

*Read more on Page A13*



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A U.S. Army soldier stands at the scene of a blast in Ramadi, west of Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, Aug. 8, 2010. A suicide car bomber struck a police patrol west of Baghdad Sunday and killed several people, most of them civilians standing in line outside a post office to collect a monthly state stipend for some of the country's poorest, police officials said.

*Associated Press*

## White House: U.S. on track to end Iraq combat role

*Read Next Page*

## Russian wildfires threaten to stir Chernobyl radiation

MANSUR MIROVALEV

Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Wildfires threatened to stir radioactive particles left over from the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster back into the air over western Russia, and authorities boosted forest patrols to keep the flames from contaminated areas.

Environmentalists and forest experts warned that the radioactive dust could be harmful, even though doses would likely be small. "The danger is still there," Vladimir Chuprov of Russian Greenpeace told The Associated Press.

The Emergency Situations Ministry said at least six wildfires were spotted and extinguished this week in the Bryansk region — the part of Russia that suffered the most when the Chernobyl nuclear power plant's reactor No. 4 exploded during a pre-dawn test on April 26, 1986, spewing radioactive clouds over much of western Soviet Union and northern Europe.

The ministry also had reported sporadic wildfires last week, but said all were put out.

Radiation experts from Moscow determined there has been no increase in radiation levels in the Bryansk area, on the border of Belarus and Ukraine, ministry spokeswoman Irina Yegorushkina said Wednesday.

*Continued on Page 6*



In this Jan. 31, 1994 file photo former Illinois Rep. Dan Rostenkowski is seen in Chicago. Rostenkowski, a powerful Democrat who shaped tax policy in the 1980s but later went to prison, has died.

*Associated Press*

## Former Ill. Rep. Dan Rostenkowski dies at 82

*Read Page 4*



Soldiers with face masks hose water onto smoldering tree trunks in a forest in the Noginsk district some 70 km east of Moscow, Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2010 to prevent resumption of fire. Hundreds of forest and peat bog fires have ignited amid the country's most intense heat wave in 130 years of record-keeping.

*Associated Press*

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# White House: U.S. on track to end Iraq combat role



White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs briefs reporters at the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2010.

**TOM RAUM**

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is satisfied that United States can safely end its combat role in Iraq on schedule at the end of the month, White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said on Wednesday after the president was briefed by his national-security team and the top U.S. commander in Iraq.

*Associated Press*

Obama met with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Defense Secretary Robert Gates, national security adviser James Jones and, by videoconference, the U.S. commander in Iraq, Gen. Ray Odierno. "The president heard directly from General Odierno who said that we were on target to complete our drawdown by the end of August.

Already we have removed over 80,000 troops from Iraq since President Obama took office," Gibbs said.

He said Odierno reported that the security situation has retained the significant improvements made over the last couple of years and that Iraqi security forces are fully prepared to take over.

Obama has vowed both to end the official U.S. combat mission on schedule and to move all remaining U.S. troops off Iraqi soil by the end of 2011.

Asked whether any doubts were expressed at the meeting about the 2011 deadline, Gibbs said "not that I'm aware of."

He suggested it might be "premature" to get into a discussion about the final withdrawal of U.S. troops before Iraq is able to form a new government. "What we hope and what was always envisioned is that the security gains would lead to political gains, and that's what we're hoping to see in the formation of a new government," he said.

Efforts to come up with a new government five months after the March 7 election have stalled.

Gibbs said that the president also received an update from Vice President Joe Biden and Christopher Hill, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, "on our efforts to support Iraq's leaders as they form a new government and to transition to civilian lead within Iraq."

"We understood this was not going to be a quick process," Gibbs said, noting that "the last one took six months."

"But we are on target by the end of the month to end our combat mission, turn over bases that Americans have been on to the Iraqis and transition our role there," Gibbs said.

Still, Gibbs said that an uptick in violence was expected, both as part of the start of the monthlong Islamic observance of Ramadan and "as those that are left try to gain attention." Continuing attacks against Iraq's security forces come as the U.S. is moving to reduce its troop levels to 50,000 by the end of August. □



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# Florida official proposes tough immigration law

MIKE SCHNEIDER,  
Associated Press Writer

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — State Attorney General Bill McCollum is proposing a law that would require Florida police to check a person's immigration status during traffic stops or arrests, a month after a federal judge struck down a similar law in Arizona.

But McCollum, who is a Republican candidate for governor, said the Florida bill would get around the judge's concerns by strictly defining what is considered "reasonable suspicion" and also by specifically prohibiting profiling based on race, color or national origin.

The Florida bill also would allow courts to increase penalties if a convict is in the country illegally and would take into account consider legal residency when setting bond for a suspect. Non citizens who don't carry documents showing they were in the country legally would face a second-degree misdemeanor punishable by up to 20 days in jail and a \$100 fine.

The bill also would force Florida businesses to use an online tool that runs a worker's information against Department of Homeland

Security and Social Security databases to check whether the person is permitted to work in the U.S.

Business owners found to have illegal workers would be on three years of probation, during which they would have to file quarterly reports on new hires. They would also have to file a signed affidavit with the county attorney swearing they no longer employed illegal workers. The owner's business license could be suspended for failing to file the affidavit.

U.S. District Judge Susan Bolton also blocked provisions in the Arizona law requiring immigrants to carry registration papers and mandating that authorities verify the status of all arrested people before their release from jail.

The Florida bill could be filed as early as November, said Rep. William Snyder, the bill's sponsor. "I think when we're done passing this law, Arizona is going to want our law," McCollum said during a news conference with several Republican state lawmakers. "They're going to want to pass our law because we're better, we're stronger and we're tougher and we're fairer." Republicans control the Florida legislature and could push through the bill.

Opponents of the draft bill said it was harsh, infringed on federal responsibilities, was politically motivated and was inhospitable for a state whose biggest industry is tourism and hospitality.

"I think it's very onerous for people who come visit this state," said state Sen. Nan Rich. "Let's not just talk about illegal immigrants, let's talk about visitors to Florida. We are a tourist state."

Florida's immigration history is quite different from that of Arizona's in that Florida immigrants, such as Cubans, have flourished when given the opportunity, said Maria del Rosario Rodriguez, executive director of the Florida Immigrant Coalition, an advocacy group.

Rodriguez estimated that there are about 1 million undocumented residents in Florida, a state with 18.5 million residents.

"Florida is not Arizona ... We've benefited tremendously from the entrepreneurship and leadership of large immigrant communities," Rodriguez said. "What exactly is this bill going to fix?"

Rep. Ron Saunders of Key West, who is in line to become House Democratic leader in November, said the bill would



Melissa Sanchez, 9, holds a sign during a vigil in support of Immigration Reform for the undocumented parents that have been separated from their families in Miami, Monday, July 26, 2010.

Associated Press

be given careful consideration but he questioned the timing of its introduction given that Republicans have controlled the Florida Legislature for the past dozen years but are only

now supporting immigration legislation.

"It would appear they are doing this more for political purposes than policy purposes," he said.

## Tropical weather will cost Gulf crews 4 days

HARRY R. WEBER  
TOM BREEN

Associated Press Writers

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Bad weather has delayed into early next week a massive effort to permanently kill BP's blown-out well in the Gulf of Mexico — a costly operation the government now says it is not certain how best to carry out.

Still, retired Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen said the final "kill" of the well should be done early next week, if it's done at all.

Allen, the government's point man for the spill, said Wednesday that he hopes to turn over his high-profile job to someone else by late September or early October, another sign that the officials are beginning to scale back their response to one of the worst offshore oil spills in history. He said he can leave when there is no chance that more oil will leak into the Gulf. A temporary cap has kept oil from

spewing for a month, and crews are finishing a relief well in preparation for the "bottom kill," which involves pumping mud and cement from a well deep underground for a permanent seal. The federal government and BP have recently raised the possibility that they won't need to perform the operation at all, since the well was plugged last month with mud and cement pumped in through the top. Allen has insisted for days that BP must go ahead with the bottom kill, even though the top plug appeared to be holding. On Tuesday and again on Wednesday, though, he said testing still needs to be done on the well before a final decision is made.

BP and the federal government will check to see whether the cement pumped in through the top went down into the reservoir, came back up and plugged the space between the inner piping and the outer casing. If so, the bottom kill might not be necessary.

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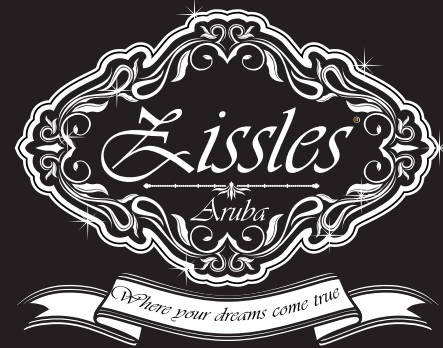
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## Former Ill. Rep. Dan Rostenkowski dies at 82



In this April 20, 2005 file photo, former Illinois Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, right, and former Vice President Walter F. Mondale, talk about the late Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley at a 50th anniversary celebration honoring the legacy of the former mayor, at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Rostenkowski, a powerful Democrat who shaped tax policy in the 1980s but later went to prison, has died.

*Associated Press*

By **DON BABWIN**

**Associated Press Writer**

**CHICAGO** — Former Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, the Chicago Democrat who became the leading architect of congressional tax policy in the Reagan era but later went to federal prison for corruption, died Wednesday, a family friend said. He was 82. Rostenkowski, who served 18 terms before losing in 1994, died surrounded by family at his home in Lake Benedict, Wis., friend Ellen Tully told The Associated Press. He had been treated for prostate cancer in the 1990s.

As House Ways and Means Committee chairman, Rostenkowski was known as a consensus builder and a

master of legislative tactics. He is credited with leading a 1983 effort to rescue Social Security from insolvency and pushing through a sweeping 1986 overhaul of the nation's tax system.

But Rostenkowski himself acknowledged that his legacy would always be tainted by his stint in federal prison.

"I know that my obituary will say, 'Dan Rostenkowski, felon,' and it is something that I have to live with," he said in a 1998 broadcast interview with Robert Novak and Mark Shields.

In 2000, however, then-President Bill Clinton pardoned Rostenkowski. Two prominent Republicans, former President Gerald R. Ford and former

House Minority Leader Robert H. Michel were among those urging the pardon.

Rostenkowski's problems began in 1992 when a grand jury in Washington charged him with 17 counts of misusing government and campaign funds. The scandal forced him to step down as chairman and led to his 1994 defeat by Republican unknown Michael Patrick Flanagan, who became the first GOP congressman from Chicago in 35 years.

It was part of a Republican sweep that returned the GOP to power in both houses of Congress for the first time since the 1950s. (Flanagan served just one term before being ousted by then-Democratic state Rep. Rod Blagojevich, who later became governor — and was ousted from office in his own scandal in January 2009.)

In the end, Rostenkowski pleaded guilty two counts of mail fraud. He admitted in his plea agreement that he had converted office funds to his own use for gifts such as Lenox china and armchairs. He admitted hiring people on his congressional payroll who did little or no official work — but took care of his lawn, took photographs at political events and family weddings, helped his family's business and supervised the renovation of his house.

Even after pleading guilty, Rostenkowski continued to say that what he did should have been counted as a violation of House rules — not a crime.

Rostenkowski served 17 months in prison, mainly at the federal government's

correctional center at Oxford, Wis. After his release, he spoke to a prison reform group and joked about "my Oxford education."

Biographer Richard Cohen wrote that Rostenkowski was "among the half dozen most influential members of Congress during the second half of the 20th century."

Daniel David Rostenkowski was born Jan. 2, 1928, into one of Chicago's leading Polish-American political families. His father was an alderman. Rostenkowski was educated at St. John's Academy, a Wisconsin military school, and Loyola University in Chicago. He served in the infantry in Korea from 1946 to 1948. He was a state representative and later a state senator before his election to the U.S. House in 1958.

Rostenkowski was a pillar of the Chicago Democratic Machine — a ward committeeman whose precinct captains were experts at getting out the vote. He once said that in Chicago politics is "a blood sport." Until the end, he never faced more than token political opposition.

As Ways and Means chairman, he handled the job in old-school fashion, once telling an Associated Press interviewer that those who crossed him legislatively "should not expect any largesse, so to speak, from me."

But he believed in compromise and expressed dismay at the partisanship that descended on Capitol Hill after he left. He was fond of closed-door meetings where political dramatics were shelved in

favor of deal making.

"We looked at politics as compromise," Rostenkowski said. "We were going to work together. We were going to get something done. We were Democrats and Republicans but we were also legislators. Politics is war today. Everybody wants to fight. Nobody wants to give in."

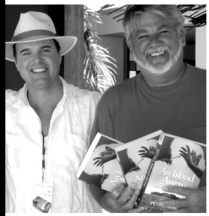
"As much as people criticize the back room, the dark room or the cigar or smoke-filled room, you get things done when you're not acting," he told an interviewer. In his day, he said, "we'd argue like hell on the floor of the House of Representatives but we were out playing golf that night."

He had little use for rules limiting contacts with lobbyists. "If a congressman is going to be a rascal he's going to be a rascal," Rostenkowski once told an interviewer.

Rostenkowski brought in millions of federal dollars for public works projects, including Kennedy Expressway reconstruction and turning Navy Pier on Chicago's downtown lakefront into a recreational area.

As chairman, Rostenkowski opposed protectionist trade legislation and played a key role in pushing through the North American Free Trade Agreement, which lowered trade barriers between the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Never a favorite with liberal groups, Rostenkowski joined forces with many corporations to win approval of the measure, which was proposed by the Clinton administration but bitterly disliked by organized labor. □





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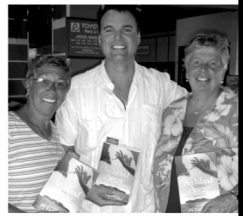
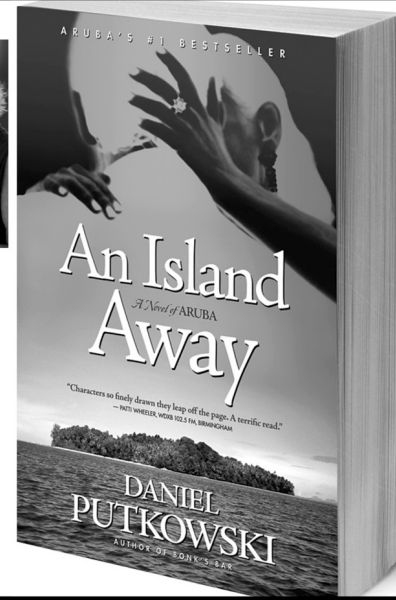
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# FBI says 'Granddad Bandit' captured in Louisiana

MELINDA DESLATTE

Associated Press Writer

BATON ROUGE, Louisiana (AP) — The man dubbed "Granddad Bandit" by the FBI and suspected in two dozen bank robberies across 13 states was captured Wednesday at his Baton Rouge home after a lengthy standoff that ended peacefully, authorities said. Police and FBI agents surrounded the home Wednesday morning and

nearly six hours later walked out with a stocky, balding man with graying hair and glasses, who was surrounded by officers and put into a police car.

The FBI identified him to the public for the first time as 52-year-old Michael Mara.

FBI Special Agent Howard Schwartz said Mara was arrested on a warrant for a bank robbery in Richmond, Virginia. He was picked up

from the modest, cream-colored house after officials received tips from the public. Schwartz said he didn't know how long Mara lived at the home and declined to say more about the tips that led authorities there.

"We were aware of him probably since Friday," Schwartz said.

Officials said Mara would be placed in the custody of the U.S. Marshal's Service



Law enforcement place Michael Mara, 53, second from right, the so-called "Granddad Bandit," in the back of a police car Wednesday August 11, 2010, after he was arrested at his home in Baton Rouge La. Mara is wanted in the robberies of at least 25 banks in 13 states since December 2008.

Associated Press

## Utah HP: Tour bus had no mechanical problems

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Utah Highway Patrol says inspectors found no mechanical problems that would have caused a bus crash that killed three members of a Japanese tour group.

The agency said Wednesday that inspectors combed through the wreckage of the 2006 Ford E-350 shuttle bus, which veered off Interstate 15 Monday night and rolled into the median. The bus was taking the group to Bryce Canyon National Park.

Prosecutors are considering whether charges are warranted against the driver, who is a 26-year-old Japanese man living in Las Vegas on a work and student visa.

The crash killed two men and a woman and injured 11 other tourists. The driver was treated and released.

Prosecutors said the 26-year-old driver faces possible criminal charges, and investigators blamed driver error.

"From all indications, the driver was not focused or paying attention on his driving," said Utah Highway Patrol Sgt. Ted Tingey. "He was possibly drowsy at the time, and that's when he went off the left side of the road and rolled it."

The accident happened miles (kilometers) from a 2009 bus crash that claimed six Chinese tourists near Hoover Dam, and was also blamed on driver distraction.

A National Transportation Safety Board report issued in June said the Hoover Dam crash might have been prevented if the

board's previous recommendations for stability control improvements and lane departure warning system had been adopted by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The NTSB also has called for improved passenger restraints and strengthened windows and roofs on mid-size commercial buses.

NTSB spokesman Nicholas Worrell said the board was looking at Monday's bus crash "in a limited way" because of its similarity to the 2009 crash near Dolan Springs, Arizona. No formal investigation was planned, Worrell said.

The Utah Highway Patrol said it would not identify the driver in Monday's crash because he was under investigation. Names of most passengers were released.

Seven passengers were flown in critical condition to hospitals in the Salt Lake City area, 250 miles away from the crash scene, including a 14-year-old girl from Osaka, Japan, according to authorities and a tour company. Some of the other four injured passengers have been released from a Cedar City hospital. The bus driver also was treated for minor injuries and released.

Hiroki Hayase, a 20-year-old man from Osaka, was killed in the crash, authorities said. The identities of two others who died — a 38-year-old man and 40-year-old woman, both from Tokyo — have not been released by authorities who are trying to notify relatives in Japan. □

and would appear before a magistrate judge in Baton Rouge before being transferred to Virginia to face the federal charges. Last week, the FBI began posting pictures of the "Granddad Bandit" on billboards across the country, saying he was connected to a string of robberies dating back to a 2008 holdup. He is believed to have robbed banks all over the eastern and central U.S., including in Alabama, Texas, Georgia, Arkansas, Kansas, New York, Florida, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri — but not in Louisiana. It was unclear if the robber was actually a grandfather. FBI agents said the nickname was devised to help law

enforcement and the public easily identify the suspect.

"He just looks like everyone's granddad," FBI supervisory special agent Amanda Moran said last week.

In the robberies, the suspect waited patiently in line and handed the teller a note. Sometimes, he gestured that he had a weapon, although agents said there was no indication he ever actually used one. Once his demands were met, he exited quietly, fleeing on foot.

"If he was standing behind you in the teller line while you're waiting for teller service you wouldn't give him a second look," Moran said. "He blends well with people, and his look reminds you of the fatherly granddad." □





Wearing a protective mask a man looks on while walking on Moscow's Red Square, Monday, Aug. 9, 2010. Deaths in Moscow have doubled to an average of 700 people a day as the Russian capital is engulfed by poisonous smog from wildfires and a sweltering heat wave, a top health official said Monday. Acrid smog blanketed Moscow for a six straight day Monday, with concentrations of carbon monoxide and other poisonous substances two to three times higher than what is considered safe.

Associated Press

#### CHERNOBYL RADIATION

Continued from front Page

The forest floor holds radioactive particles that settled

after the Chernobyl disaster, which environmentalists warned could be thrown into the air by the fires raging

across western and central Russia. The particles could then be blown into other areas by the wind, they said.

"A cloud may come up in the air with soot and spread over a huge territory," said Alexander Isayev of the Moscow-based Center for Forest Ecology and Productivity.

The most dangerous radioactive elements left by the Chernobyl accident are cesium and strontium, which with repeated exposure could raise the risks of cancers and genetic disorders, environmentalists said.

"There is a higher threat of cancers and future mutations, especially for children, embryos, if a woman is pregnant," said Anton Korsakov, an environmental researcher at Bryansk State University.

A leading nuclear security scientist in Moscow, however, dismissed the danger. Even if forests in the most polluted areas catch fire, the amount

of radiation will be many times lower than the natural background radiation, said Rafael Arutyunyan, director of the Moscow-based Institute for Safe Development of Nuclear Energy.

The Bryansk forest protection service has increased patrols around the Bryansk forests, particularly in the southwest section affected by Chernobyl, agency chief Vladimir Rozinkevich said. "There is a danger, but we are controlling the situation," he said.

Emergency Situations Minister Sergei Shoigu acknowledged the danger last week, but said Wednesday that the situation was not as difficult as in the areas around Moscow, where acrid clouds of smog from the fires have polluted the air. Hundreds of wildfires sparked by the hottest summer ever recorded in Russia have engulfed large areas of western Russia. Moscow's death rate has doubled to 700 people a day. Morgues have been

overflowing, and residents have been desperately seeking ways to stay cool amid soaring temperatures and air pollution.

About 165,000 workers and 39 firefighting aircraft were battling more than 600 blazes nationwide Wednesday over 220,000 acres (more than 90,000 hectares), the Emergency Situations Ministry said.

Fires also have broken out in Ukraine, but the country's Emergency Ministry said none have been reported in the areas contaminated by the Chernobyl accident.

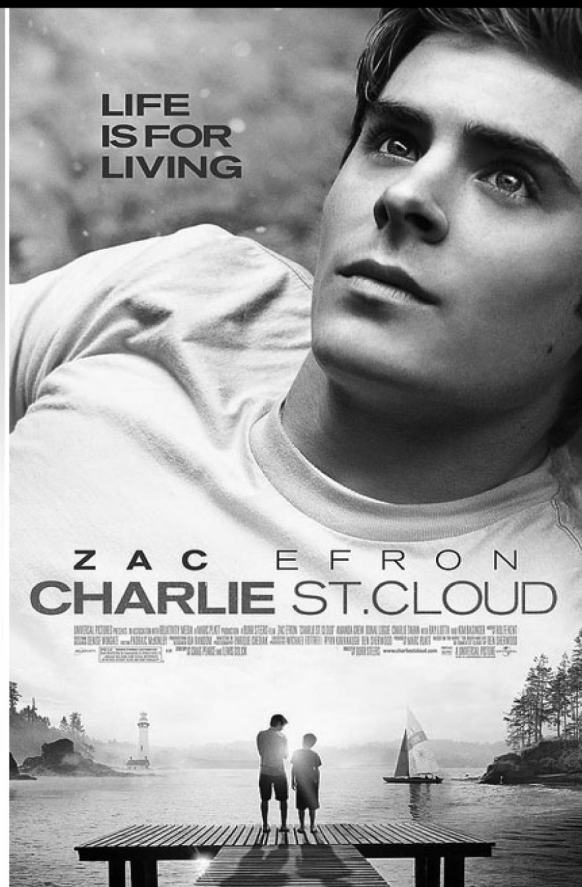
There also has been no increase in radiation levels recorded in Ukraine, said Mykhailo Dovhych, deputy director of Ukraine's Central Geophysical Observatory, which monitors radiation levels.

In Vienna, the International Atomic Energy Agency said it had no comment on the radioactive dangers posed by the wildfires. □



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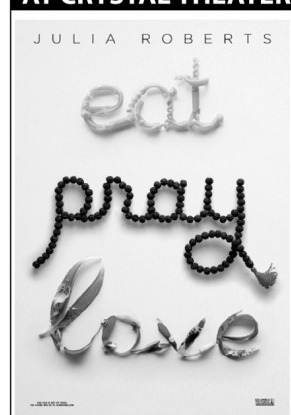
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daily: 6.15 - 9.00	
matinee: 1.30	<b>PG</b>
late show: 11.30	
<b>THE KARATE KID</b>	
daily: 12.15 - 3.15	
late show: 11.30	<b>PG</b>
<b>GROWN UPS</b>	
daily: 4.45 - 7.00 - 9.15	
matinee: 12.00 - 2.30	<b>PG-13</b>
late show: 11.45	
<b>TOY STORY 3 3D</b>	<b>PG</b>
daily: 6.15	
matinee: 12.50 - 3.30	
late show: 11.30	<b>PG</b>
<b>SALT</b>	
daily: 8.45	
matinee: 11.00	<b>PG-13</b>
late show: 11.00	
<b>DESPICABLE ME 3D</b>	<b>PG</b>
daily: 4.30	
matinee: 12.00 - 2.15	
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<b>INCEPTION</b>	
daily: 4.45 - 8.00	
matinee: 1.30	<b>PG-13</b>
late show: 11.00	
<b>STEP UP 3D</b>	<b>PG-13</b>
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<b>THE OTHER GUYS</b>	
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matinee: 1.30	<b>PG-13</b>
late show: 11.45	
<b>THE LAST AIRBENDER</b>	<b>PG</b>
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matinee: 12.00 - 2.30	
late show: 11.30	<b>PG</b>
<b>STEP UP 3D</b>	<b>PG-13</b>
daily: 7.30 - 9.45	
matinee: 12.00	
late show: 12.00	<b>PG-13</b>
<b>INCEPTION</b>	
daily: 5.00 - 8.00	
matinee: 1.45	<b>PG-13</b>
late show: 11.15	

\*The Expendables will start Friday August 13

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# Documents suggest Demjanjuk link to second Nazi camp

ANDREA M. JARACH

Associated Press Writer

MUNICH (AP) — A German historian on Wednesday presented evidence at the trial of John Demjanjuk that suggested he worked as a guard at the Nazis' Flossenbuerg concentration camp.

Matthias Meissner of Germany's Federal Archive showed the Munich state court original documents from Flossenbuerg listing a man called "Demianiuk" and "Demenjuk" as a guard there in October 1943.

The ID number on the card was the same as on the key piece of evidence in the trial — a Nazi-issued identity card that the prosecution says carried Demjanjuk's photo and indicates he was a guard at the Sobibor death camp in Poland.

Although Demjanjuk isn't charged with any crimes at

Flossenbuerg, which was a forced labor camp rather than a death camp, the documents presented by Meissner could back up the prosecution's allegation that Demjanjuk was indeed a camp guard and might later have been transferred to Sobibor.

Former Ohio autoworker Demjanjuk faces 28,060 counts of accessory to murder related to his alleged activities at Sobibor.

The 90-year-old denies the charges.

The defense maintains Demjanjuk was a Soviet soldier captured by the Germans and spent most of the war in prison camps himself.

On the documents, the name "Demianiuk" figured twice on a list of weapons handed out to guards at Flossenbuerg in October 1943. Another list of guards, which is undated, lists "Demenjuk" alongside his

alleged Nazi ID number.

A third document shows that a "Diminiuk," again identified by the same ID number, was put on service at a bunker on the Flossenbuerg grounds in October 1944.

Transcribing names from the Cyrillic alphabet used in Demjanjuk's native Ukraine could lead to slight variations in spellings on the documents, excerpts of which were read out by Judge Ralph Alt or shown on an overhead projector.

Defense attorney Ulrich Busch questioned the documents' authenticity and said Demjanjuk never was a guard in Flossenbuerg.

About 100,000 people were imprisoned throughout the war at Flossenbuerg, in southeastern Germany, and about 30,000 inmates were killed or died there due to inhumane treatment.

Alt asked Demjanjuk at the



Accused Nazi death camp guard John Demjanjuk arrives in a courtroom in Munich Tuesday Aug. 3, 2010. The former Ohio autoworker is being tried on nearly 28,000 counts of accessory to murder over allegations he was a guard at the Nazis' Sobibor death camp.

Associated Press

opening of the trial if he wanted to look at the documents, but the defendant declined.

Demjanjuk followed the hearing lying in a hospital bed next to the judge's bench, wearing sunglasses and showing no reaction to the testimony.

Demjanjuk was deported from the U.S. to Germany in May 2009.

He had his U.S. citizenship revoked in 1981 after the U.S.

Justice Department alleged he hid his past as the notorious Treblinka guard "Ivan the Terrible." He was extradited to Israel, where he was found guilty and sentenced to death in 1988, only to have the conviction overturned five years later as a case of mistaken identity.

The trial in Munich, which started in November 2009, will resume on Sept. 13 following a summer break. □



Crew members of an army helicopter help villagers to get off after transporting them from heavy flooded area to Sukkur, Pakistan's Sindh Province, Monday, Aug. 9, 2010. The number of people suffering from the massive floods in Pakistan exceeds the combined total in three recent megadisasters, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the 2005 Kashmir earthquake and the 2010 Haiti earthquake, the United Nations said.

Associated Press

SAGAR MEGHANI,

Associated Press Writer

TAMPA, Florida (AP) — The United States is more than tripling the number of helicopters it is providing to help in flood-ravaged Pakistan, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Wednesday.

Gates said the USS Peleliu is now off the coast near Karachi, carrying 19 helicopters and a complement of about 1,000 Marines.

The six U.S. helicopters which

were sent to Pakistan from Afghanistan earlier have been helping rescue people and deliver aid supplies. Gates said the Peleliu's complement will replace six combat helicopters on loan from the U.S. war effort in Afghanistan.

Gates said President Barack Obama has directed his administration to "lean forward" in offering help to the Pakistanis, which he stressed will be at a pace dictated by Pakistan's needs and its ability

# U.S. sends Marine ship, helicopters for flood aid

to handle aid.

"There's no point in having a lot of helicopters if we don't have the relief supplies to deliver," Gates told reporters traveling with him to Florida. He said the State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development and other areas of the government will have to be involved in helping Pakistan recover.

Gates and other U.S. officials say the Pakistani military has had to divert some troops and attention from fighting insurgents to help in flood relief. The U.S. is trying to lighten that load, but Gates said the overall impact of the shift ultimately will depend on how many troops are diverted. "We weren't expecting them to undertake new offensives for some period of time anyway," Gates said of the Pakistani military's efforts against insurgents along its border with Afghanistan. He also addressed reports that extremist groups are helping

in relief efforts, allowing them to appear to some parts of the population as a positive force. "It does offer them an opportunity," Gates said.

Gates the U.S. in turn is pleased to offer Islamabad a way of showing the Pakistani population that its

government and military and military are able and ready to care for their own people. On Tuesday, the Pakistani Taliban said the flooding was God's punishment to Pakistanis for accepting secular leaders and urged Pakistanis to boycott foreign aid. □

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# Zimbabwe gem sale stirs 'blood diamond' fears

MICHELLE FAUL

Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG (AP)

— Zimbabwe auctioned 900,000 carats of rough gems Wednesday from a diamond field where human rights groups say soldiers killed 200 people, raped women and enslaved children.

It was the first public sale of diamonds from the notorious Marange field in eastern Zimbabwe since international regulators imposed a ban in November under rules designed to screen out conflict gems.

The sale happened to coincide with the "blood diamonds" phase of the war crimes trial of Charles Taylor, the former Liberian president. Taylor's case and the Zimbabwe sale are unrelated, but both point to the successes and difficulties facing the campaign to regulate the trade in diamonds that has helped finance wars in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Angola, Congo and now Ivory Coast.

The auction in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, went ahead after the gems were certified as conflict-free by Abbey Chikane, a monitor for the Kimberley Process that oversees trade in the diamonds. Chikane had established that soldiers were gone from two fenced-off commercial mines producing the diamonds, and that the mines were

operating according to "minimum international standards."

In the rest of the field, where Zimbabwe's military still holds sway and abuses reportedly continue, a ban on diamonds remains in place. But there is no guarantee its product won't infiltrate into the legitimately mined stones.

The arrangement so angered American gem trader Martin Rapaport that in February he quit as president of the World Diamond Council. "The tragedy of Zimbabwe is that the Kimberley Process has started legitimizing, legalizing, kosherizing blood diamonds," he said in a telephone interview from Israel as the auction got under way.

He said it made Kimberley participants "liars who are telling the world that these diamonds are legitimate." The Kimberley Process was set up in 2002. Its members are 75 diamond-producing and diamond-trading countries, along with industry agencies and civic and human rights bodies such as London-based Global Witness. Stephane Chardon, chairman of the Kimberley monitoring group, said it deserved credit for the original ban on Marange diamonds and for ensuring that the two fenced-off mines were being properly run.

He noted that the Kimberley



This is a Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2006 file photo of miners as they dig for diamonds in Marange, eastern Zimbabwe, Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2006. Zimbabwe began selling millions of carats of rough diamonds Wednesday Aug. 11, 2010, that were mined from an area where human rights groups say soldiers killed 200 people, raped women and forced children into hard labor. Abbey Chikane, Zimbabwe monitor of the world diamond control body, certified the diamonds ready for sale on Wednesday, having said controversy-plagued diamonds from eastern Zimbabwe met minimum international standards.

rules apply only to blood diamonds mined and sold by rebel movements or their allies to finance armed conflicts aimed at toppling legitimate governments. It has no provision for punishing governments. Chardon said the system has helped. "In quite a few countries it has contributed to changing conflict diamonds into development diamonds, in the sense that the revenues are going to the government and are used for development purposes and not for conflict."

The Marange field was discovered in 2006 and is believed to be the biggest found in the world since the 19th century. It triggered a chaotic diamond rush until police and then the army moved in.

Human Rights Watch says the Zimbabwe government still has not kept its word to withdraw soldiers completely from the Marange fields, and that it found conditions there "quite appalling" as recently as May.

"We found that people were still being forced to mine, to

dig for diamonds at gunpoint by the army, by soldiers," said senior researcher Tiseke Kasambala of the area outside the two fenced off mines. "We found children as young as 11 still working in these mines." Buyers from Belgium, Russia, India, Israel, Lebanon and the United Arab Emirates flew into Harare on private aircraft to inspect the stones and present bids in sealed envelopes. They refused to speak to reporters.

"Buyers were extremely interested and the pricing was satisfactory," said David Castle, director of Mbada Diamonds and chairman of the South African New Reclamation Group that offered the diamonds for sale.

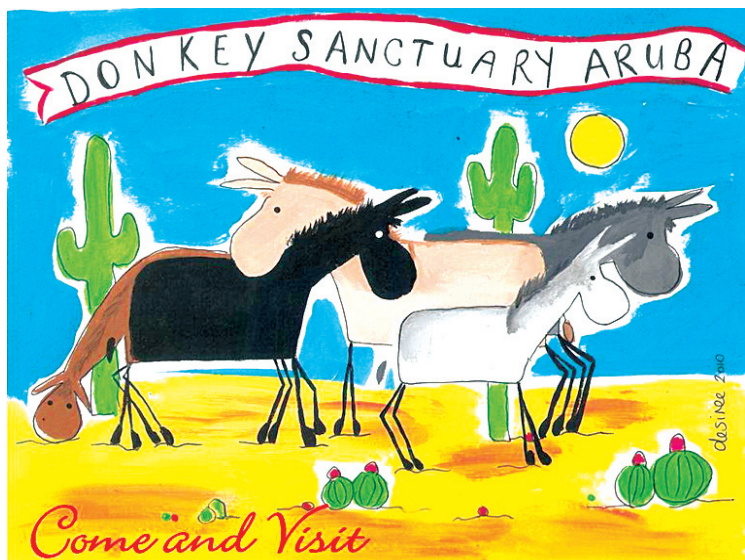
Global Witness campaigner Elly Harrowell said that instead of expelling Zimbabwe from the Kimberley process as recommended last year by Kimberley Process investigators who were sent to Marange, "What we have instead is a weak compromise."

Associated Press

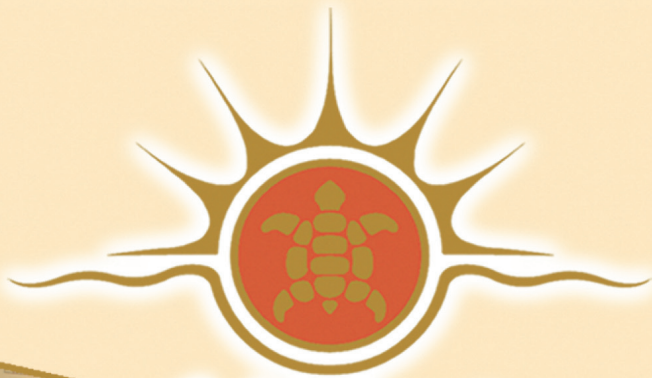
She said that unless Zimbabwe kept its promise to withdraw all troops and fulfill other promised improvements, the Kimberley Process should "act very, very quickly" to prevent Marange gems from being exported.

The compromise was reached after a Zimbabwe court released human rights activist Farai Maguwu, who was jailed for more than a month after publicizing abuses at the diamond fields.

Human rights groups say the deal also helped avert a crisis in the international diamond market, since President Robert Mugabe was threatening to sell stones without certification. Zimbabwe's mines minister, Obert Mpofu, said Wednesday the country has 4.5 million Marange diamonds in stock, valued at up to \$1.9 billion — one third of the national debt of a country whose economy has been ruined by corruption, mismanagement and Mugabe's campaign against the country's white-minority farmers. □







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# Flotilla of stinging jellyfish hit Spanish beaches

DANIEL WOOLLS

Associated Press Writer

MADRID (AP) — A vast flotilla of small, virtually undetectable jellyfish have stung hundreds of people on Spanish beaches this week — a swimmer's nightmare that biologists say will become increasingly common due to climate change and overfishing. The blobs attacked three areas near the eastern city of Elche along a famed stretch of white sand beaches known as the Costa Blanca. On Tuesday alone, 380 people were stung, compared to the usual four or five swimmers a day, said Juan Carlos Castellanos of the Elche city tourism department.

The was no sign of the jellyfish on Wednesday, but since Sunday at least 700 people have been stung.

"In the five or six years I have been in this job, I have never seen anything like this," Castellanos said.

The beaches were never closed but officials put up warning signs and stationed lookout boats offshore.

The tourism official blamed strong currents

for sweeping the jellyfish onto the beaches and then calm seas for letting them hang around for three days. Particularly warm waters — which jellyfish like — also helped boost their numbers during Spain's key summer tourism season.

One problem was these jellyfish were small and almost transparent were not readily visible and thinly spread out over 3 miles of coastline.

"The swimmers could probably not even see them," Castellanos added.

Far to the north, a much more menacing species looms — the Portuguese Man-of-War, a floating, violet-colored sack with meters-long tentacles. They have stung more than 300 people over the past three weeks in Atlantic waters off Spain's northern coasts of Cantabria and the Basque region, officials said.

Spanish marine biologists say, in general, they are seeing fewer jellyfish this summer than in other years. In the Catalonia region and the Balearic islands — both hugely popular with British and German tourists —



A swimmer removes from the sea a jellyfish on a beach in El Perellonet, south of Valencia, Spain, on Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2010. A vast flotilla of small, virtually undetectable jellyfish have stung hundreds of people on Spanish beaches this week, a swimmer's nightmare that biologists say will become increasingly common due to climate change and overfishing.

officials said this summer has been relatively quiet on the jellyfish front.

But scientists also Spanish beachgoers are going to have to get used to higher concentrations of jellyfish. Normally, jellyfish are kept from getting close to the shore by a natural barrier

of less-salty water formed with runoff from summer rains.

But with rain more scant because of global warming, this protective cushion is weaker, said Jose Maria Gili, a jellyfish specialist at the Institute of Marine Sciences in Barcelona.

Another problem is overfishing, which depletes stocks of tuna, swordfish and other species that are natural predators of jellyfish. And fewer fish means fewer competitors for tiny plankton that jellyfish feed on, allowing the latter to flourish, Gili says. □

Associated Press





**FILE** - In this Feb. 28, 2006 file photo, Anna Nicole Smith, leaves the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington. A doctor for Smith says the late Playboy model had chronic pain syndrome that was a challenge to treat because she was addicted to prescription drugs. Dr. Victor Kovner testified for a second day on Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2010 in the Los Angeles trial of two other doctors and Smith's boyfriend.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta, File)

# Doctor says Anna Nicole had chronic pain syndrome

By LINDA DEUTSCH,  
AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES — Anna Nicole Smith suffered from pain most of her life, a doctor testified Wednesday, saying he treated her with prescription drugs to alleviate her chronic pain syndrome even though he considered her an addict.

"People with substance abuse disorders have the right to pain relief," said Dr. Victor Kovner, who treated Smith for three years before he sold his practice to Dr. Sandeep Kapoor, a defendant in the drug conspiracy case.

Kovner said Smith had a substance abuse disorder so severe, "she could become addicted to Jello." Treating her was a challenge, he said.

"Did you perceive her to be an addict?" Deputy District Attorney Renee Rose asked the physician.

"Yes. I believe she had addictive behaviors, but it was controlled," Kovner replied.

Kapoor, Dr. Khristine Eroshovich and Smith's boyfriend-lawyer Howard K. Stern have pleaded not guilty to conspiring

to provide Smith with excessive drugs and to prescribing to an addict. They are not charged with causing her 2007 death from a drug overdose.

Kovner said he thought Stern cared for Smith.

"He was very responsible regarding her medications," the doctor said.

"He was concerned about her overusing."

Kovner said Smith told him when they met in 2001 that she was an addict and had been treated at the Betty Ford Center for addictions to Vicodin and alcohol.

Kovner later learned she had suffered from migraines and seizures as a child. She also reported pain in her back, arm and intestinal area.

After failing to find a physical cause for the pain, Kovner said he concluded Smith suffered from chronic pain syndrome and treated her with Methadone, Xanax and other drugs.

Kovner said Smith took prescription drugs for physical and emotional relief. Some of the medications he prescribed were for anxiety and depression, he added. □

# David Wolper, producer of 'Roots,' dies at 82



Television executive producer David Wolper poses in his office in Los Angeles, Calif., in Aug. 1987. Wolper, whose 1977 miniseries 'Roots' became a landmark in television history, has died at the age of 82. Wolper died peacefully in his Beverly Hills home Tuesday evening while watching television with his wife Gloria. Wolper died of congestive heart disease and complications of Parkinson's disease.

(AP Photo/Mark Terrill)

By LYNN ELBER,  
AP Television Writer  
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — David L. Wolper, whose landmark 1977 miniseries "Roots" engrossed the nation with its saga of an American family descended from an African slave, has died. He was 82. Wolper died peacefully

in his Beverly Hills home Tuesday evening while watching television with his wife Gloria, said spokesman Dale Olson. Wolper died of congestive heart disease and complications of Parkinson's disease, Olson said.

He was a consummate salesman and advocate for filmmakers, said Mel Stuart, a veteran feature director and documentarian who worked with Wolper for two decades. "There was an excitement. Anything was possible because Dave could enable it. He was a dreamer who could make dreams come true," said Stuart, who directed "The Making of the President" documentaries and "Willy Wonka," among other Wolper-produced films. Wolper helped establish a new "school" of West Coast films at a time when New York-based TV networks' news divisions and filmmakers dominated the field.

"In a way, he brought the documentary to Hollywood, and he became the major force in Hollywood for making documentaries," Stuart said. Olson, who represented Wolper for 40 years, called him "the most remarkable man I ever knew."

During the documentary days, working for Wolper was like going to school and cramming

for a test every week" for publicity kits on subjects ranging from exotic insects to U.S. presidents.

"He'll surely be missed," said producer-director James L. Brooks ("Broadcast News," "The Simpsons"), who landed his first job in Los Angeles with Wolper's company.

"He stood out as a colorful man," Brooks recalled, "even at a time when people were colorful."

During his lengthy career, Wolper produced the children's classic "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" and demonstrated his showman instincts with New York's 1986 extravaganza celebrating the Statue of Liberty centennial and the 1984 Olympic Games ceremonies in Los Angeles.

But his TV work remained his best-known accomplishment, particularly "Roots," based on the best seller by Alex Haley. The ABC series was seen in whole or part by 130 million people — more than half the country — when it ran for eight nights in 1977.

"I make it happen," Wolper said in a 1999 Associated Press interview. "Who bought Alex Haley's book 'Roots' for TV? Me. I hired the director, hired the writer. I put them all together. I'm like the chef. If I mix all the ingredients right,

it's going to taste terrific. If I don't, it's not going to come out good."

The miniseries chronicling Kunta Kinte, enslaved as a teenager in 18th-century West Africa to be sold in America, and his descendants represented a different kind of family story, one told from the black perspective. It was based on Haley's novel, a Pulitzer Prize-winner that mixed accounts of his own ancestors with fiction.

Among the large cast were John Amos, Ben Vereen, Leslie Uggams, Cicely Tyson, Olivia Cole, Madge Sinclair and Richard Roundtree. Newcomer LeVar Burton, who played Kinte as a youth, became an instant star. The series won a slew of honors including nine Emmy Awards and a Peabody Award.

In 2002, Wolper produced a 25th-anniversary special on the impact of "Roots," which aired on NBC after ABC turned down the idea.

"I think it was an important milestone in the history of television," then NBC Entertainment President Jeff Zucker said at the time. "It showed what you could do if you had the courage of your convictions to put something on like that."

Wolper also produced several other miniseries, including the 1979 sequel "Roots: The Next Generations," "The Thorn Birds" and "North and South."

A New York City native who was born Jan. 11, 1928, Wolper studied at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, and the University of Southern California, where he was business manager of the humor magazine, Wampus, edited by future Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Art Buchwald.

After leaving school in 1949, he joined with friends to create Flamingo Films, a TV distribution company, Olson said. Wolper traveled cross-country to sell old films to the few dozen TV stations then on the air.

His move into production was a splashy one. He obtained Soviet space footage for a documentary that was carried by 100-plus stations after networks refused to air an independent production. "The Race for Space" earned a 1960 Academy Award nomination. Before becoming a titan in the miniseries genre, Wolper had a series of highly successful TV documentaries, including "The Making of the President 1960." Time magazine crowned him "Mr. Documentary," Olson said. □





# Stocks fall sharply as investors' gloom grows

By STEPHEN BERNARD,  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks and interest rates fell sharply Wednesday as more bad news chipped away at investors' view of the economy.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 265 points and all the major indexes fell more than 2 percent. The Dow has now fallen four days out of five, and it has lost almost 320 points in just the past two days. Meanwhile, the yield on the Treasury's 10-year note fell to its lowest level since March 2009 as investors avoided stocks and sought the safety of government securities.

Only 442 stocks rose on the New York Stock Exchange, while 2,627 fell, a sign that investors expect all businesses to suffer if the economy continues to weaken.

Investors' gloom deepened a day after the Federal Reserve said it would begin buying government bonds as a way to stimulate the economy. News of slower industrial growth in China and a disappointing economic indicator in Japan helped send stocks plunging first in Asia, then in Europe.

The economic news in the U.S. was also troubling. The Commerce Department said the trade deficit widened in June to its highest level in 20 months as exports dipped. Falling exports mean U.S. manufacturing could be slowing down. And early this year, manufacturing showed the most consistent signs of recovery.

Investors got more bad news after trading ended. Cisco Systems Inc.'s revenue in the company's latest quarter fell short of analysts' expectations. Companies' revenue shortfalls have sent stocks falling over the past month, and Cisco's



In this Aug. 10, 2010 photo, trader Peter Tuchman, right, watches the numbers as he works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stock futures and interest rates tumbled Wednesday, Aug. 11, as investors worldwide grew concerned about the health of the U.S. economy after the Federal Reserve said the recovery was slowing down.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

stock slid 8 percent in after-hours trading. Other stocks fell as well, and the report was likely to touch off more selling across the market on Thursday.

Stock traders tend to buy and sell based on their expectations for what business will be like in six to nine months. The problem is that economic data has been so muddled lately that investors have no sense of whether the recovery will hold. In its economic assessment statement on Tuesday, the Fed was still talking about a recovery, although the central bank said it would more modest than forecast in June. "Uncertainty, uncertainty, uncertainty," was the way that Javier Perez-Santalla, managing director for futures and foreign exchange at the institutional brokerage firm Dinosaur Group, described the mood in the market.

"Everyone is scratching their heads, saying 'which way?'" Perez-Santalla said. "We're kind of stuck in this no man's land, where we're damned if we do, damned if we don't."

The Fed said Tuesday it will start buying government bonds with money it gets from the maturing mortgage-backed bonds that it bought during the recession. The goal is to try to cut interest rates on mortgages and corporate loans and in turn increase lending and help the economy grow faster.

But the Fed's moves were expected to be quite small in comparison to what the economy needs. And many investors were selling because the debt purchases would have only a limited impact on the economy.

The Dow dropped 265.42, or 2.5 percent, to 10,378.83, its largest slide since it fell 268.22 on June 29.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 31.59, or 2.8 percent, to 1,089.47. The S&P 500 slipped below 1,100, a key psychological level. Falling and holding below that level could lead to more selling as computer-driven trading sets in.

The Nasdaq composite index fell 68.54, or 3 percent, to 2,208.63. □



FILE - In this July 7, 2010 file photo, a Costco customer looks at Sony, Panasonic and other televisions at Costco in Mountain View, Calif. The U.S. trade deficit surged in June to the highest level since October 2008 and imports of foreign consumer goods hit an all-time high. But U.S. exports faltered, representing a setback for American manufacturers.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma, file)

## Trade gap likely points to slower economic growth

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER,  
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The United States is selling fewer products around the world and spending more on cheap imported goods, an imbalance that hurts the job market at home and means the economy is even weaker than previously thought.

The trade deficit of nearly \$50 billion for June is the biggest in almost two years, and economists fear that economic growth for the second quarter, which came in at a sluggish rate of 2.4 percent in early estimates, may turn out to be only half that.

"The problem is that to the extent we have a recovery in the United States, it is pulling in a lot of imported goods. That means it is not translating into production and jobs at home," said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight.

Exports for June were down 1.3 percent, to \$150.5 billion, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday. At the same time, imports rose 3 percent, to just over \$200 billion.

Overall, the trade deficit grew by 19 percent for the month.

The manufacturing sector has been a bright spot in an otherwise sluggish recovery, and if manufacturers have a hard time finding places to sell their products overseas, it could weaken the broader economy.

While U.S. manufacturers have reported increased demand from Asia, exports to Europe are falling behind as that region of the world struggles with fallout from its debt crisis. The deficit with the European Union alone increased 26 percent.

The trade figures show the United States can't rely on demand overseas to make up for its own weak economy at home, said Paul Dales, U.S. economist at Capital Economics, another forecasting firm.

The ballooning trade deficit added to a rough day on Wall Street. The Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 260 points, or 2.5 percent. Investors were also digesting a gloomy economic outlook from the Federal Reserve a day earlier.

President Barack Obama gave the manufacturing industry a little help Wednesday. The president signed legislation that would reduce and suspend tariffs on certain materials U.S. companies must import to make their products. □



# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY

WNBA Roundup

# Jackson leads Storm past Dream, 80-70



Indiana Fever's Tully Bevilaqua, right, steals the ball from Los Angeles Sparks' Tina Thompson during the first half of a WNBA basketball game in Los Angeles, Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2010.

*Associated Press*

# Thomas won't return to Knicks as consultant

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**  
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK — Isiah Thomas will not be returning to the New York Knicks after all.

Thomas said Wednesday in a statement he was declining a position as a consultant with the franchise he ran for 4 1/2 years because it may not be legal. "After speaking with commissioner Stern and Knicks executives, it has become apparent that my new agreement violates certain NBA bylaws," Thomas said. "Because of this, I have decided to rescind my contract with the team."

Thus ends — at least for now — the surprising and controversial reunion between the Knicks and the frequent target of fans and media during his turbulent tenure at

Madison Square Garden.

The Knicks announced the agreement with Thomas on Friday and it was quickly criticized. League personnel are not allowed contact with players who are not yet eligible for the draft, which Thomas would have in his role as Florida International University coach.

"We have been informed by the Knicks that Isiah Thomas has rescinded his consulting agreement with the team. As a result, it is not necessary for the league to take any formal action on the proposed arrangement," Stern said. "However, we have reminded the Knicks of NBA rules that prohibit team personnel, including consultants, from having contact with players not eligible for the draft."

ATLANTA (AP) — Lauren Jackson scored six of her 14 points in a decisive 8-0 run as Seattle clinched the top spot in the WNBA playoffs with an 80-70 comeback win over the Atlanta Dream on Tuesday night.

Tanisha Wright also scored 14 points and Sue Bird had 13 for the Storm, who already had locked up the top spot in the Western Conference.

Angel McCoughtry scored 16 points on 3-for-19 shooting for Atlanta, which dropped into third place in the East, percentage points behind New York.

Sancho Lyttle had 12 points and 17 rebounds, and Erika DeSouza added 13 points and 11 rebounds for the Dream.

Atlanta led 69-67 with 3:35

remaining before Seattle, which rested its starters most of the first half, took control.

Mystics 84, Sun 74

At Washington, Crystal Langhorne had 23 points and 10 rebounds for the Mystics, who moved three games ahead of the Sun for the fourth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Monique Currie scored 17 points and Katie Smith scored 12 for Washington.

Connecticut's Tina Charles had 15 points and 15 rebounds for her 19th double-double, equaling the WNBA single-season record set by Natalie Williams in 2000. Renee Montgomery scored 17 points for the Sun, who clinched the season series with a win at home against Washington

on Sunday and hold the tiebreaker.

Leading 37-34 at halftime, the Mystics increased the advantage with a 21-6 run to start the second half.

Sky 91, Mercury 82

At Rosemont, Illinois, Sylvia Fowles had 24 points and 14 rebounds as Chicago beat the Mercury for the first time in 10 matches.

The Sky (13-17) remained 4½ games behind Washington for the last Eastern Conference playoff berth.

Chicago, which trailed by as many as 11 in the third quarter, put together a 17-2 run in the fourth.

Diana Taurasi had 28 points and Penny Taylor added 14 for Phoenix.

Lynx 73, Silver Stars 66

At San Antonio, Seimone Augustus scored 20 points as Minnesota had an away win to improve its playoff positioning.

Rebekkah Brunson had 12 points, all in the first half, and 12 rebounds for Minnesota, which never could pull away but had an answer for every Silver Stars rally. The Lynx moved into third in the Western Conference, a half-game ahead of San Antonio.

Augustus scored eight points in the fourth quarter as the Lynx evened the season series at two games apiece ahead of their final scheduled meeting Sunday in Minnesota.

Sophia Young scored 19 points for San Antonio, including two 3-pointers that helped the Silver Stars cut it to 70-66 with 36.1 seconds left.

Fever 82, Sparks 76

At Los Angeles, Tammy Sutton-Brown scored 18 points to help the Fever move 1½ games ahead of their closest pursuers in the Eastern Conference. □



In this April 15, 2009, file photo, Isiah Thomas points to someone in the crowd during a news conference that introducing him as the new men's college basketball coach at Florida International University in Miami.

*Associated Press*

the final two seasons and the team never won a postseason game while he was in charge. "One of the biggest regrets of my life is that the Knicks didn't perform up to the standards the fans had every right to expect while I was in charge. I take full responsibility for that," he said. □



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## NL Roundup

# Ugla, Marlins pound Strasburg, beat Nats 8-2

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stephen Strasburg allowed a career-high six earned runs in a career-low 4 1-3 innings Tuesday night as his Nationals lost 8-2 to Florida.

Dan Ugla drove in four runs with a homer and a double, and Hanley Ramirez hit two of his three doubles off Strasburg (5-3), whose ERA rose from 2.32 to 3.07. The No. 1 overall pick in the 2009 amateur draft had not allowed more than three earned runs or lasted fewer than five innings in any of his previous nine major league games.

Anibal Sanchez (9-7) went 6 2-3 innings and both runs he was responsible for were unearned. He allowed five hits and had seven strikeouts. Strasburg hadn't pitched since a victory at Cincinnati on July 21.

### Dodgers 15, Phillies 9

At Philadelphia, Andre Ethier had four hits, scored four runs and reached base six times, and Casey Blake and Jay Gibbons hit home runs for Los Angeles.

The Dodgers had 18 hits, eight off starter Kyle Kendrick (7-5), who lasted only 3 1-3 innings. The top four hitters in the batting order — Scott Podsednik, Ryan Theriot, Ethier and James Loney — had 11 hits and scored 11 runs.

Vicente Padilla (6-3) allowed four runs and six hits in five innings.

### Cubs 8, Giants 6

At San Francisco, Starlin Castro drove in three runs and Kosuke Fukudome homered as Chicago battered San Francisco pitcher Tim Lincecum.

Ryan Dempster (10-8) pitched into the seventh inning for



Cincinnati Reds Scott Rolen forth from right, yells at an unidentified St. Louis Cardinals player being held back by teammate Jeff Suppan while umpire Mark Wegner holds back Cincinnati Reds manager Dusty Baker, right, during an altercation in the first inning of their baseball game in Cincinnati Tuesday Aug. 10, 2010. Cardinals catcher Yadier Molina and Reds Joey Votto, far right, listen.

his second straight win while Aramis Ramirez added three hits for Chicago, which ended a season-high six-game losing streak on the road. It was only the Cubs' third win in their last 15 games.

Lincecum (11-6), the two-time reigning NL Cy Young winner, lasted just four innings and gave up six runs, including Fukudome's two-run homer in the first. Over his last five starts San Francisco's ace is 1-2 with a 5.40 ERA.

Castro had an RBI single in the first then hit a bases-loaded single in the fourth to drive in two more.

### Mets 1, Rockies 0

At New York, Mike Pelfrey outpitched Ubaldo Jimenez for seven innings, and Jose Reyes hit a sacrifice fly to help New York kick off a crucial homestand.

The Mets moved back to .500 with a much-needed win after

returning from a road trip containing two wins and four losses against division rivals that helped drop them 8½ games behind Atlanta in the NL East.

Pelfrey (11-6) went seven innings for the first time since June 19, and gave up four hits. He struck out four and walked one while throwing a career-high 122 pitches.

The Rockies, who had only one runner reach third base, have won only twice in their last 11 road games.

### Cardinals 8, Reds 4

At Cincinnati, St. Louis catcher Yadier Molina and Cincinnati second baseman Brandon Phillips sparked a benches-clearing fight in the first innings before the Cardinals recovered to win and move back into first place in the NL Central.

Molina hit a solo homer and a sacrifice fly off Johnny

Cueto (11-3), who got shoved against the backstop screen and furiously kicked several Cardinals during the altercation. Both managers were ejected, but no players. Matt Holliday broke the game open with a bases-loaded single in the seventh, one of his four hits.

Rookie left-hander Jaime Garcia (10-5) beat the Reds for the third time this season, giving up four runs in 5 1-3 innings.

### Braves 4, Astros 2

At Houston, Brooks Conrad's two-run homer in the ninth inning gave Atlanta the win. The Braves were trailing 2-1 after the Astros scored two runs in the eighth inning off Atlanta errors before Conrad's shot to right field off Houston closer Matt Lindstrom (2-3). Alex Gonzalez singled to set up Conrad's go-ahead shot. Conrad entered the game in

the bottom of the sixth inning to replace Chipper Jones, who sprained his left knee.

Troy Glaus added a solo homer in the ninth and also drove in Atlanta's first run in the seventh inning.

Jonny Venters (4-0) got the win after striking out Jason Michaels to end the eighth inning and Billy Wagner pitched a perfect ninth for his 28th save.

At Milwaukee, Miguel Montero hit a home run to lead off the eighth inning and lift Arizona to the victory.

Montero reached down and drove a first-pitch slider from reliever Chris Capuano (1-2) to deep center for his fifth home run of the season.

Capuano fell to 0-2 in 12 relief appearances this season. Before this season, he had not pitched in the majors since Sept. 28, 2007. He had his second Tommy John surgery in May 2008.

Blaine Boyer (3-2) pitched two scoreless innings and Sam Demel earned his first career save.

Rookie Barry Enright allowed one run and three hits over six innings and retired 13 of his last 16 batters for Arizona. He struck out two and walked two.

At San Diego, Ryan Ludwick hit his first two homers with San Diego to reach 100 for his career in a win over Pittsburgh.

**In other NL games it was Florida 8, Washington 2; L.A. Dodgers 15, Philadelphia 9; N.Y. Mets 1, Colorado 0; St. Louis 8, Cincinnati 4; Atlanta 4, Houston 2; Arizona 2, Milwaukee 1; San Diego 4, Pittsburgh 1; and Chicago Cubs 8, San Francisco 6.** □





Boston Red Sox's Mike Lowell hits a solo home run during eighth inning baseball action against the Toronto Blue Jays in Toronto Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2010. The Red Sox defeated the Blue Jays 7-5.

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Mike Lowell hit a go-ahead home run in the eighth inning as the Boston Red Sox beat the Toronto Blue Jays 7-5 on Tuesday.

J.D. Drew added a solo shot as the Red Sox improved to 8-2 against the Blue Jays this season. Boston has won eight of its past 11 on the road.

Jose Bautista hit his major-league-leading 35th home run for the Blue Jays, while Travis Snider hit a three-run shot and Adam Lind added a solo blast. Toronto leads the majors with 178 homers this season, 29 more than Boston, who are second with 149.

Felix Doubront (2-2) pitched 1 1-3 innings for

the win while Shawn Camp (3-2) took the loss.

#### Twins 12, White Sox 6

At Chicago, Jim Thome hit his 579th homer and Joe Mauer had three more hits as Minnesota took sole possession of the American League Central lead by beating Chicago.

They pounded out five homers, starting with Thome's drive to left-center on the first pitch of the second to kick off a four-run burst against his former team.

J.J. Hardy and Mauer each went deep against Freddy Garcia (10-5) in the inning to make it 5-0, and the Twins pulled away after Chicago's Carlos Quentin hit a three-run shot off Scott

### AL Roundup

# Lowell hits go-ahead HR as Red Sox beat Jays

Baker (10-9) in the bottom half.

#### Rays 8, Tigers 0

At Detroit, Jeremy Hellickson gave up three hits and struck out seven, without walking a batter, over seven innings as Tampa Bay blanked Detroit.

Hellickson (2-0) was making his second major league start after being recalled from the minor leagues for the second time this month.

Joaquin Benoit pitched the eighth and Mike Ekstrom the ninth to complete the four-hitter.

Max Scherzer (7-9), the opposing pitcher when the Rays' Matt Garza no-hit the Tigers in Tampa Bay on July 26, was the loser.

#### Orioles 14, Indians 8

At Cleveland, Felix Pie hit the first of four home runs by Baltimore as the Orioles beat Cleveland in Buck Showalter's first road game since taking over as manager.

Pie's three-run drive over the center-field wall off Justin Masterson (4-11)

with two outs in the fifth inning gave Baltimore a 7-6 lead. It came after Arrieta fell behind 6-4 by allowing five runs in the bottom of the fourth after the Orioles had taken a 4-1 lead with four runs in the top half.

Corey Patterson hit a solo homer in the sixth, then Matt Wieters had a two-run shot and Luke Scott another three-run drive during the Orioles' six-run eighth.

#### Rangers 4, Yankees 3, 10 innings

At Arlington, Texas, David Murphy's single with the bases loaded in the 10th inning off Mariano Rivera gave AL West-leading Texas a victory over New York in a matchup of division leaders.

Murphy, who had a two-run homer in the game, was mobbed by his teammates after rounding first base with his game-winning hit. Michael Young led off the 10th with an infield single off Rivera (3-2), beating Derek Jeter's throw after the shortstop made a backhanded stop deep in

the hole, and scored the winning run.

#### Angels 3, Royals 1

At Anaheim, California, Dan Haren ended a career-long 10-game winless skid with his first victory for Los Angeles in a win over Kansas City.

Peter Bourjos drove in the go-ahead run with a suicide squeeze bunt in the fifth inning as the Angels won four of their last five after going 2-8 in their previous 10 games.

Haren (1-2) allowed five hits and one run in seven innings to win in his fourth start with the Angels, whom he joined on July 25 in a trade from Arizona. It was his first win since June 12 against St. Louis.

#### Mariners 2, Athletics 0

At Seattle, Felix Hernandez scattered five hits over eight innings and struck out a career-high 13 to lead Seattle past Oakland.

David Aardsma took over in the ninth for Hernandez (8-9), who threw 110 pitches. He picked up his 22nd save in 26 opportunities.

The Mariners scored a run in the sixth off starter Brett Anderson (3-3) on an RBI single by Casey Kotchman. Seattle added a run in the eighth off Craig Breslow when Gutierrez lofted an RBI single to shallow left. It was the sixth shutout for the Mariners and the fifth time the A's have been shut out.

In other AL games it was Baltimore 14, Cleveland 8; Tampa Bay 8, Detroit 0; Boston 7, Toronto 5; Texas 4, N.Y. Yankees 3, 10 innings; Minnesota 12, Chicago White Sox 6; L.A. Angels 3, Kansas City 1; and Seattle 2, Oakland 0. □

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# Neymar, Pato lead Brazil to 2-0 win over US

RONALD BLUM,

AP Sports Writer

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) — Neymar scored on debut and Alexandre Pato added a goal late in the first half as Brazil beat the United States 2-0 in an international friendly Tuesday, the first match for both nations since their disappointing World Cup exits.

Neymar, the 18-year-old Santos sensation, had just switched with Robinho and moved from the left flank to the center. He beat Johnathan Bornstein to an Andre Santos' cross and angled a header inside Tim Howard's left post in the 29th minute.

Pato doubled the lead in first-half stoppage time when Ramires' through ball split Bornstein and Carlos Bocanegra, and the 20-year-old AC Milan forward shot past Howard. It was his second in nine appearances and first since his debut against Sweden in March 2008.

"They put you in such difficult spots defensively," Bocanegra said. "I made the decision to step, and probably should have went the other way and maybe tried to run back."

Both Pato and Neymar were overlooked by Dunga for his World Cup roster despite

public clamor for their selection in Brazil. Dunga was fired after the 2-1 World Cup quarterfinal loss to the Netherlands last month and replaced by Mano Menezes, who promised to restore "Jogo Bonito" — beautiful Game — as Brazil prepares to host the World Cup in 2014.

Menezes replaced the dour defensive tactics of Dunga with an attack-minded 4-3-3 formation with Pato between Neymar on the left and new Brazil captain Robinho on the right.

"That's the line that we will establish from now on," Menezes said through a translator.

A near-sellout crowd of 77,223 attended the high-profile homecoming for a U.S. team that drew record television ratings during the World Cup. With young, swift players, Brazil showed glimpses of the renowned ball movement that took a back seat in South Africa to a more defensive game. Brazil won for the 15th time in 16 matches against the U.S. and has outscored the Americans 31-10.

"If we're going to get to the next level, we've still got to be a lot better," American star Landon Donovan said.

Ganso, Victor and defender

David Luiz also made their international debuts for Brazil, along with substitutes Andre, Ederson and Jucilei.

"Everyone was very comfortable playing together," Neymar told Brazilian media. "Mano gave us a lot of freedom to do what we always do on the field, and that helped a lot. That's why we were able to play so well."

U.S. coach Bob Bradley had nothing but praise for Neymar.

"His ability to go at people and create on the dribble is something that I think is special," he said. "I think everyone knows the talent that Brazil possesses."

For both nations, rebuilding began in New Jersey, in a gleaming \$1.6 billion stadium set for its first official NFL games next month.

Criticized for some of his lineups during the 2-1 overtime loss to Ghana in the World Cup's second round, he made six changes from that starting 11.

Bradley used Maurice Edu in midfield in place of Ricardo Clark, and started Benny Feilhaber and 23-year-old Alejandro Bedoya in the midfield instead of Landon Donovan, who moved up to forward, and Clint Dempsey,



Brazil forward Neymar, center, celebrates with Paulo Henrique Ganso, left, and Alexandre Pato after Neymar scored during the first half of an international friendly soccer match against the United States Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2010 at New Meadowlands Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. Pato also scored to give Brazil 2-0 win.

*Associated Press*

who remained in England with Fulham ahead of the Premier League opener.

"A very young team we had tonight as well as them," Donovan said, "but from an experience standpoint, they had a lot of guys that have

played in a lot of big games and we haven't and I think that showed through."

MLS scoring leader Edson Buddle started up front in place of Robbie Findley, who was ineffective in South Africa. □



ORONTO - Novak Djokovic beat his opponent, but settled for a draw with the weather.

More than two hours spent under the blazing sun at Rexall Centre ignited what the world's No. 2-ranked player described as "heat issues," prompting him to seek medical counsel during a second-round match at the Rogers Cup on

## Djokovic, Murray earn wins in Toronto

Wednesday. He won, but just barely. "I will never, ever risk my health just to win," Djokovic said. "Today, I was really on the edge."

Temperatures reached 28 C during his midday match against France's Julien Benneteau, but it felt like 37 C with humidity. Djokovic endured for a 7-5, 7-5 win.

Heat has already forced the 23-year-old Serbian to withdraw from competition in the past. Djokovic pulled himself from a quarter-final match at the Australian Open last year with cramping and soreness due to the heat, ending his quest for a second straight title.

Britain's Andy Murray began his quest for a second straight title in Canada with a 7-5, 6-2 win over Belgian Xavier Malisse in a late afternoon game. Russian Nikolay Davydenko rolled to a 7-5, 6-1 win over Italian Fabio Fognini in one of the other early matches at

the US\$2.43-million event at York University. "I feel good," Murray said. "Today could have been a little bit better from the start, but the first one's tough and I was playing against a very good player."

Canada lost its last hope of winning a title when Peter Polansky was ousted from the singles draw with a 6-4, 7-6 loss to Romanian Victor Hanesu. The 22-year-old from Thornhill, Ont., had upset No. 15-ranked Austrian Jurgen Melzer in the first round.

Rafael Nadal, the ATP World Tour's top-ranked player, is set to face Switzerland's Stanislas Wawrinka at centre court Wednesday night. Nadal is a two-time winner at the Rogers Cup, capturing his last championship two years ago.

Djokovic is also a former Canadian champion. He won during his debut three years ago, and has made it to the quarter-final round in each of

the past two years.

He was on the court with Benneteau for two hours and 12 minutes on Wednesday. The hard court surface tends to absorb the heat, making it even hotter for the players.

"It's just something that you cannot fight against," Djokovic said. "Nobody can turn off the sun and just do me a favour, even though I would like it."

Djokovic is playing for the first time since he lost in the semifinal round at Wimbledon, and he arrived to a rude reception in Toronto earlier this week. He and Nadal were ousted from doubles competition by Canadians Milos Raonic and Vasek Pospisil.

Djokovic will face Hanesu late Thursday afternoon.

"Life goes on," Djokovic said. "I won another match. Usually, when you win the tough first round, you get more confidence." □



# SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY



# Like most majors these days, PGA is anyone's title

NANCY ARMOUR

AP National Writer

SHEBOYGAN, Wisconsin (AP) — With five of the last six majors won by first-timers, the days of the biggest names hoarding the best titles may be over.

Ahead of Thursday's start of the PGA Championship, players like Northern Ireland's Graeme McDowell, South African Louis Oosthuizen and Lucas Glover, who once only dreamed of hoisting a claret jug or Wanamaker Trophy now look at their unassuming practice-round-partners-turned-major-champions and think, "Why not me?"

"It's more tangible," said Padraig Harrington, who credits Michael Campbell of New Zealand with inspiring his major swing. Two years after Campbell's victory at the 2005 U.S. Open, the Irishman won the British Open, quickly followed by a second straight claret jug and the 2008 PGA title. "You need that familiarity. You had that in the '80s when Seve (Ballesteros) started winning majors and other (European) players followed. Mentally, they could see that it could be done.

"It's the old story, once the record is broken, a lot of people can follow."

Of course, breaking through is a lot easier when Tiger Woods is playing like a mere mortal. With his personal life in turmoil, so is Woods' game. He's been stuck on 14 majors since the 2008 U.S. Open, and arrived at Whistling Straits fresh off the worst tournament of his career. He beat just one player in the 80-man field last weekend, and shot a whopping 18-over 298 at Firestone — a course where he's won seven times.

"I'll be honest, the feeling in the locker room is slightly

*So who's next?*



**Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland watches his shot on the second hole during a practice round for the PGA Championship golf tournament Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2010, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Wis.**

different," England's Paul Casey said, choosing his words carefully. "With the way (Woods) played the past week, guys feel like this is wide open, and that's not a feeling that a lot of guys have had before. Graeme McDowell played tremendous golf at the U.S. Open. So did Louis playing his golf at The Open. That, combined with the way Tiger played last week, I think guys now feel there are multiple possible winners this week.

"It's different. Not a feeling we've had in a while."

Woods could usually be counted on to win at least one major each season and, as recently as 2006, he won two of them. Throw in Phil Mickelson, and the world's top two players combined to win six of the eight majors in 2005 and '06. That's a formidable club for an up-and-comer to crash.

But with every victory by a Glover or McDowell or Oosthuizen, the majors don't seem quite so daunting.

Glover was 71st in the world when he won the U.S. Open at Bethpage Black. McDowell had to sweat out his exemption to the U.S. Open before holding off Woods, Mickelson and Ernie Els at Pebble Beach. And Oosthuizen had made the cut at only one of his previous eight majors before winning at St. Andrews.

"I think the days of no-names getting in contention on Sunday afternoon and backing up, it doesn't really happen anymore," McDowell said. "Guys only have forward gears now, as opposed to anything else. Guys are not scared anymore."

As if there was any doubt, McDowell turned to some unlikely sources for inspiration Sunday at Pebble Beach, when Woods, Mickelson and Els — multiple major winners — were chasing him.

"Y.E. Yang, Trevor Immelman, Zach Johnson — I was taking some belief from those guys doing it," McDowell, the first European in 40 years to win

the U.S. Open, said, rattling off a list of first-timers. "There's no doubt, it has a knock-on effect."

So who's next?

Rory McIlroy is always a popular choice. McDowell's fellow Northern Irishman tied the major-championship record with a 63 in the first round at the British Open, only to blow up with an 80 on Friday afternoon. But the 21-year-old player showed his mettle, closing 69-68 to finish in a tie for third.

There's Ryo Ishikawa, the Japanese phenom who earlier this year shot a 58, the lowest score ever on a recognized tour. Paul Casey's run at becoming the first Englishman since Faldo to win the British Open might have disappeared in a gorse bush, but his tie for third at St. Andrews shows he is as dangerous as he was last summer, when he climbed to No. 3 in the world before being sidelined by a rib injury.

Hunter Mahan is fresh off a win at Firestone. And don't

forget about local favorite Steve Stricker, whose rock steady consistency has him in position to claim the world No. 1 ranking — although he'd need a bit of help from Mickelson and Woods.

"Anyone that tees off in any of these events can win it," Oosthuizen said. "I just think it's getting to a stage where you can have, in the majors, different winners all the time."

All that being said, no one's about to count out Woods or Mickelson.

Woods' debacle at Firestone allowed him to put in some extra time at Whistling Straits, and he sounded genuinely excited Tuesday about the progress he's seen in his game. Mickelson may have stumbled in his opportunities to claim the world No. 1, but those struggles were put in a different light after he revealed Tuesday that he has psoriatic arthritis, which causes his immune system to attack his joints and tendons.

Mickelson first felt symptoms of the condition five days before the U.S. Open began, and experienced such intense pain he couldn't walk. Medication has brought the illness under control, and Mickelson said there will be no long- or short-term negative effects on his health. This major free-for-all may be maddening for golf fans who got used to having to worry about only a handful of players. But rather than seeing it as a sign the game is in disarray, McDowell said it's a celebration of golf's strength. "We have such a wealth of talent all over the world — from Asia, from Europe, from the British Isles, from America," McDowell said. "It's just strong right now, the sport, and I think long may it continue." □



## Adianiz & Fabian celebrate love with marriage



OCCIDENTAL - Adianiz Garcia & Fabian Brizuela were married on August 10, 2010, barefoot on the beach with the sunset gently behind them as they said their vows and exchanged rings with one another.

Page B10

*"Masters of the Game"*

# Pro Freestyle Soccer & Panna Knockout athletes ready

*Players visit to IDEFRE*

ORANJESTAD - For the clinics on Freestyle Soccer & Panna Knockout there are 3 professionals & Masters of the Game who are already on Aruba and visited Aruba's IDEFRE.

Athletes Dilshan Fong, Kiki Musampa & Furgeell Pinas were received by IDEFRE President Jessy Beukenboom together with members Jozef Albus, Edward Robles & Adeline Rojer whom are responsible in assisting the athletes through all the clinics for the coming days.

*Continued on Pages B8 & 9*



*Now you can access the phonebook straight from your phone*

# "Arubook" for Blackberry Introduced for Aruba



ORANEJSTAD – Yesterday afternoon, a new product and service for Blackberry users was introduced. The new application is easy to download and use as a digital telephone book and business directory for the Blackberry and in the near future will be available for the I-phone. During the press conference, the Director and Creator of the application Terrick Mansur explained the use, how to download it and how to access the service of Arubook.

To download the service just go to [www.arubook.com](http://www.arubook.com), type in your email and the application will arrive on

your Blackberry in moments giving you access to the phone book of Aruba and businesses. Once you've downloaded the application to your blackberry, you will instantly have access to telephone numbers, fax numbers, emails and even more information about companies. It is as simple as clicking on the Arubook icon, fill in the name of the company and you will have the information you requested in seconds.

Sales Representative of Arubook Miss. Nahbilach de Palm explained to the press that there are more than



30,000 Blackberry users on Aruba and this service is available for all types of Blackberry phones and most important, everyone who has a Blackberry can have access to the Arubook service free of charge. It was also explained that that the company is prepared to provide this service to other Caribbean islands Miss. Melony Paesch, who is in charge of sales for Arubook explained during the press conference that all companies can register their information at Arubook for 1 month free, then they will have an opportunity to choose an attractive package according to their budget. □



*At The Westin Resort, Aruba*

# Pago Pago restaurant redefines Caribbean cuisine



PALM BEACH - Pago Pago restaurant, under the guise of Executive Chef Matt Boland, is launching a new menu to bring The Westin Resort, Aruba's flagship restaurant back to the top of the island's culinary ranks.

The restaurant was primarily focused on Pan-Asian cuisine when it originally opened, and quickly became the gastronomic trendsetter on the island, and the gauge that many other restaurants used to measure success. Chef Matt was a part of Pago Pago's original creative team, and is excited to bring the restaurant—that went through numerous reinventions, most recently with an American steakhouse theme, when the property was part of the Wyndham brand—back to the upper echelons of Aruba's dining scene.

The new menu is a mélange of contemporary Caribbean

and Asian cuisine. "Asian cooking is very hot right now, and it has proven to be more than just a trend—it is here to stay.

I want to expand on that and meld it with all that is fresh, bold, and exciting in Caribbean cuisine...we have access to the freshest seafood caught right here, as well as amazing tropical fruits, herbs, and spices that can be combined in symphony to yield a whole new level of cuisine in Pago Pago," explains the chef. Throughout the menu there is a common thread of clashing classic techniques with fresh New World cuisine.

Veteran Chefs Darwin Torres and Willy Guerero are part of the new Pago Pago creative team. "Darwin has an amazing knack for flavor combinations...look for unique sauces like Portobello dark chocolate sauce, green peppercorn tamarind sauce,

espresso cilantro barbecue sauce, and a passion fruit vinaigrette," says Matt.

East meets west in dishes layered in exotic flavors from both regions like Ropa Vieja



of Duck (served with wild mushrooms, garlic, tomatoes, hoi-sin sauce, and Peking scallion pancakes); the Angus Beef Tartar prepared with an Asian twist; Crispy Calamari Salad with organic greens, arugula, radicchio, banana, cashew, and hearts of palm

tossed with crisp calamari and orange chili vinaigrette; Cuba Libre Braised Pork (braised in Kahlua, lime, and dark rum, served on baby bok choy and wild mushrooms); and Almond-crusted Mahi Mahi "Mai Tai" in a pineapple-orange cucumber relish with



organic red Thai rice.

As a whole, the menu embodies fresh flavors through tropical fruits, exotic vegetables and grains, prime cuts of meat, and fresh fish, taking Pago Pago once again to a new level of progressive, innovative cuisine unlike any other dining experience on the island.


Pago Pago is open nightly from 6pm to 10:30pm (closed Wednesdays). □



www.shoprenaissancearuba.com

# Renaissance Mall & Marketplace launches their website in Spanish

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ORANJESTAD – We are an island of many nationalities represented by her inhabitants and the most spoken language next to Papiamentu is Spanish. The second largest group of tourists visiting the island is Latin. To reach the attention of the Latin group Renaissance Mall & Marketplace found the necessity to launch the website in Spanish for both the Aruban public and their visitors.

By means of the website visitors will stay well-informed of the famous and first two malls of Aruba. The website contains information of all the stores and restaurants located in Renaissance Mall and Renaissance Marketplace and their specialty in products e.g. souvenirs, jewelers, clothing boutiques and menus.

It is important for their clients that want to go shopping at Renaissance Mall and Marketplace to have an idea of the type of stores and restaurants that can be located in the mall and their opening hours. This counts, also for those that want to go out in the evening to dine or have a couple of drinks. Visit the website of Renaissance Mall and Marketplace and get all the details.

The website is very accurate with all information of the activities that are organized at the mall and detailed information of the event dates for the Aruban public and visitors. For those abroad who are planning to visit Aruba can make their schedule of activities based on the information obtained from the website of Renaissance Mall & Marketplace. Renaissance Mall reminds all her clients of the new opening hours at Renaissance mall and Marketplace: 10:00 am till 8:00 pm. This especially to accommodate the clients whom work in the daytime and our visitors from abroad who are accustomed to shop till late at night. For more information visit our website [www.shoprenaissancearuba.com](http://www.shoprenaissancearuba.com)



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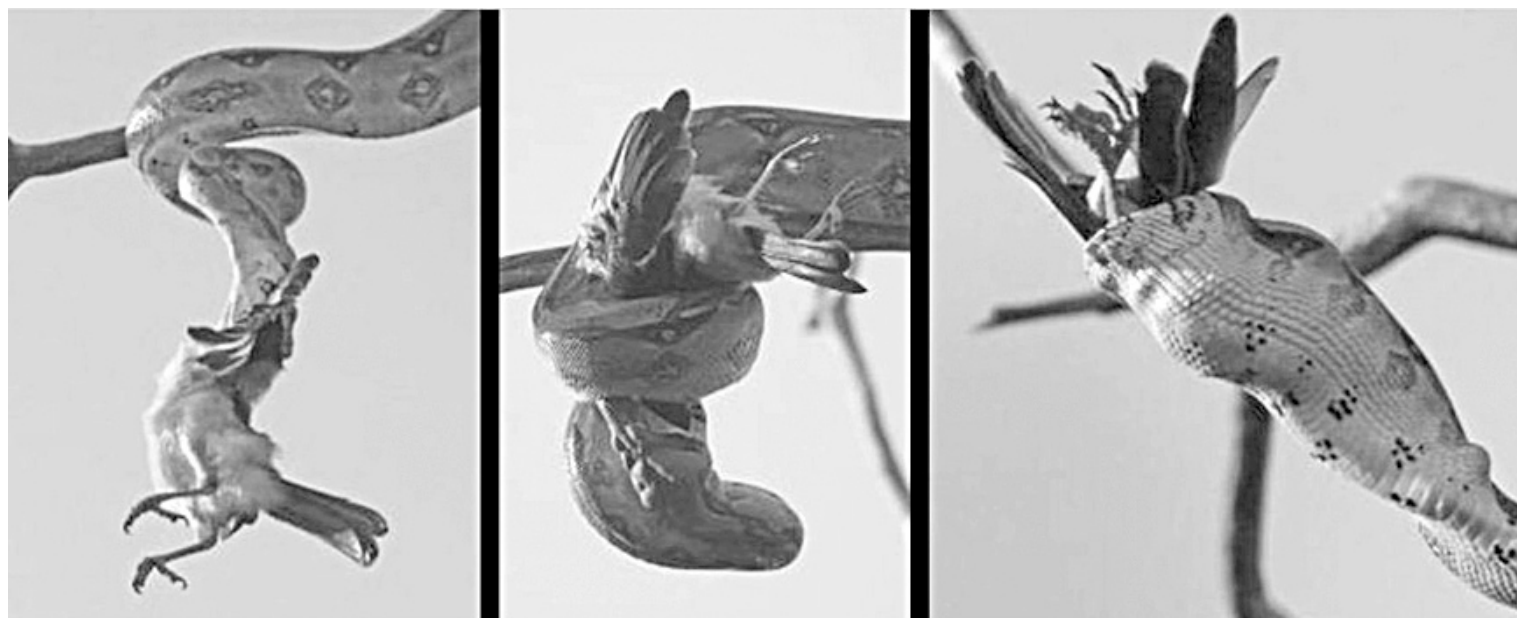
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*An Aruba without Troupial, Prikichi, Patrushi or Shoco?*

## Invasive Boa constrictor serious threat to Aruba's beloved bird populations!



ORANJESTAD - The presence of the invasive Boa constrictor was first documented in Aruba in April of 1999. Ever since, the numbers of boas caught by the Park Rangers has been impressive. Hundreds are caught each year and only those seen in areas frequented by persons who then notify the Rangers for their assistance. It is safe to presume that a multifold of those caught actually live in Aruba's wildlife. Quite some places in the world have been confronted with invasive snake situations. The saddest being that of the Brown Three Snake in Guam. Insufficient action was taken to keep the

snake's population under control. The consequences now are that several endemic species of animals, including birds have become extinct. Scientists, up to this day, have no off-the-shelf solution for such undesired intrusions. Many researches are being conducted and the hope is that one day they might find an effective and efficient solution. Reality of the matter is that if we take a passive stance in Aruba towards the boa while waiting for others to come with a solution, that we will live to regret it. Such a day may come sooner than we could imagine. The boa gets more offspring than the

Brown Three Snake.

Aruba Birdlife Conservation is in discussion with Parke Nacional Arikok on developing a practical plan to keep the boa numbers in check. In the coming weeks we hope to present at least a temporary solution to help save our birds and other fauna species. We are also working on an analysis of the estimated impact of the boa on our bird populations and we hope to publish these findings shortly. The scenario that one day in our future an Aruban grandmother has to explain to her grandchildren that we used to have birds named Troupial, Prikichi, Patrushi and Shoco, but that since the boa got loose in our wildlife they have become extinct because we did nothing about it, is simply not an acceptable story. We must act soon or regret later.

### Pictures

The pictures were taken on August 10, 2010, at 7:00 a.m., and demonstrate how a Boa constrictor laying in ambush on a branch catches and devours a Yellow Oriole that unfortunately landed on that location (in Papiamento a Gonzalito or also a Trupial Kachó, in Dutch 'Gele Troepiaal'; scientific: *Icterus nigrogularis*). This beautiful bird is classified in Aruba as a 'scarce breeding resident'. From catching the bird, constricting it and devouring it whole, head first, took less than 15 minutes. The Park Rangers later caught the snake. The pictures were taken by Greg Peterson, president of Aruba Birdlife Conservation.

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# Cast of new dinner show "D'Licious at Zissles" celebrate producer's birthday

PALM BEACH - No less than 15 international cast members flew in a month ago and will spend six months on the island, performing six nights a week at the new venue Zissles. Among the cast also Jasper Taconis, well known in the Netherlands for his role in the musical Chicago. Also, a selection of extremely talented singers and dancers are showing their talents on stage for the public to enjoy. And although the applause is normally for the amazing dancers and singers, back stage a talented team of professionals is standing by to support the cast in their success. The producer of the D'Licious show, Astrid Rose, celebrated her birthday last weekend with the entire cast and what a warm celebration it became. In the middle of the stage Astrid was put on a chair when the dancers and singers put up a spontaneous show exclusively for her, which they secretly rehearsed in their spare time. Astrid was noticeable touched by the gesture of her cast. "This team is working very hard to put up a high quality show every night and when they surprise you like this, and

they have obviously rehearsed this in their spare time, I just feel so honored and privileged to be able to work with such a classy team of talents," Astrid says with pride. Starting her career at major record company EMI Music, Astrid was responsible for the production management of several international releases on the Blue Note label. She went on as a creative manager for one of the best selling pop groups in the Netherlands, with CD sales exceeding a million copies worldwide. Astrid coordinated their national theatre tour of more than 60 shows nationwide, produced by Stage Entertainment. As an artist manager for one of the most talented female singers in the Netherlands, Edsilia Rombley, she marketed her successful 2009 theatre tour of over 40 shows. With over ten years of experience in the entertainment industry, producing the spectacular



shows at Zissles is the perfect follow up of an already exciting career D'Licious tells the story of long lost hopes and dreams, from wanting to be a superstar and walk the red carpet, to the fantasy of being a secret agent. Many people will be able to relate to the story told throughout the show, life is simply too short not to follow your heart. The greatest hits from different musical eras have been newly composed

especially for the show, as well as a new opening song called D'Licious. Sizzling costumes, with an emphasis on the sexy burlesque theme, and great lighting and graphics, will make for a show Aruba has not yet

seen so far.

The show can be seen every day but Saturdays as when the venue turns into a sizzling nightclub. Tickets are available at [www.zissles.com](http://www.zissles.com) or at the hotel concierge desk. □



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Tickets available at Jolly Pirates Shop at MooMba Beach. Boarding at MooMba Beach- by the high rise hotels between Holiday Inn and Marriott Resorts. Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers. Valid for direct telephone reservations only - Present coupon upon boarding.

## HUMAN HINTS

# If Life Gets Challenging - 1

Life seems to be getting interesting. Like all things, we can look at it from any angle we choose. Times are changing, but they are not necessarily getting worse. The old system is falling away, and we must be clever to find our way through the maze of uncertainty that accompanies change.

In uncertain times, we must rely on our Faith in our Selves. When structure

falls away, we must make decisions based on what we want from the future and our personal belief system. If either of these is unclear, our Self-Faith falters, making it harder to make good decisions during our most dire need of Clarity.

If your situation changes unexpectedly or out of your control, re-evaluate your new situation and your new options.

If things get crazy, you might have to do this from one moment to the next, or at least one day to the next. With every change that befalls you, re-evaluate the future you want, and the means at your disposal. Your most powerful tools are your imagination, your will and your faith.

Use your imagination to expand your possibilities. Focus on the feelings that accompany your thoughts. Don't waste time and energy on the thoughts that don't feel good. Focus on the ideas that excite you, and run with them in whatever direction your thoughts take you.

you can't think of a specific way to get to your specific destination. Don't give up on being abundant with something just because you don't know HOW you'll ever get it. Just know that every moment is bringing you closer to your goal. Not knowing HOW something will come about is why the Path of Life remains a Magical Mystery even though we define the destination.

Go to [www.HumanHints.com](http://www.HumanHints.com) to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing

what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you chose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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# JUST SAY NO TO DRUGS



# Team of the Second Quarter for the Renaissance Introduced



ORANJESTAD – The Team of the Second Quarter of 2010, including those who performed above and beyond expectations for April, May and June, was introduced during a fun lunch party, organized by the Human Resources Department and

emceed by Queta Werleman, at the Renaissance Conventions Center. For the Heart of the House, General Manager Paul Gielen handed out certificates to Lillian Eubanks, Linen Attendant, nominated by Saskia Croes; Ronal Vos,

Painter/Engineer Ocean Suites, nominated by Ray Joseph/Lico Hermans; Carmen Palomino, Cook Helper, nominated by Edward Zievinger; Melissa Rosina, Delighted to Serve Agent, nominated by Mariska Geerman; and winner for Heart of the House, Olga de Kort, A/R Clerk, nominated by Miroushka Statia.

For the Front of the House, a number of outstanding associates were named, among them Cesar Lopez, Bellman – Front Office, nominated by Selmar de Roo; Dorothy Tromp, B & F Waitress MH, nominated by Olmedo Arango; Rosalba Marroquin, B & F Waitress Ocean Suites, nominated by Olmedo Arango; Edward Tromp, B & F Waiter L.G. Smith's, nominated by Michael Ras; and the ultimate winner Vanie Dinzey, Papagayo-Waitress, nominated by Francisco Faro.

As Supervisor of the Quarter, the nominees included Magaly Paula, HSK Supervisor, nominated by Saskia Croes; Yuraima Wernet, Front Desk



Supervisor, nominated by Selmar de Roo; Francois Maduro, B & F Supervisor, nominated by Michael Ras; and the ultimate winner for the coveted title, Carlos Cortez, Kitchen Technician Supervisor, who was nominated by the Kitchen Team and Marco Polo Pina.

Nominated for the title of Manager of the Quarter was Rafael Jones, Wedding Coordinator, who was nominated by Edrien Arends. Pictured here are the nominees and winners with General Manager Paul Gielen. □





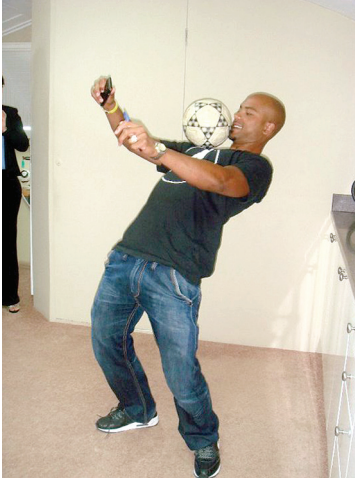
# Pro Freestyle Soccer & Panna Knockout athletes ready



*Continued from Page B1*  
 IDEFRE is very pleased to be able to work together with the department of Health & Sports in providing all the materials and assistance during the clinics which are held on:  
 Thursday August 12th, 2010 at "Centro di Bario Playa Pabow" from 4:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m. at "Centro di Bario Noord".  
 Friday August 13th, 2010 at "YMCA Dakota" from 4:30 p.m. till 5:30 p.m. and later from 6:30 p.m. till 7:30 p.m. at "Parke Jaburibari".  
 Sunday August 15th, 2010 at the parking lot of Arubus in San Nicolas from 6:00 p.m. till 7:00



Also during the main event on Saturday 14th, 2010 at the parking lot by the Score building at the Caya Betico Croes from 5:00 p.m. till 9:00 p.m. there will be a final of Pannabol followed by a Celebrity Panna Knockout. Youth Extreme is the band closing up the Saturday night.



## Spectacular seafood special at Driftwood

From the pier to your plate at authentic Aruban seafood restaurant

**ORANJESTAD** - It's happening downtown. Established Driftwood Restaurant launches a series of spectacular and delicious seafood specials, available now.



perfectly and authentically prepared by their talented local Chef.

Located in the heart of characteristic downtown, Driftwood offers you a unique dining experience. Enjoy the freshest fish, biggest shrimp, or the most succulent Caribbean lobster amid the rustic ambience of the natural driftwood dining room.

*The authentic local seafood restaurant.*

The menu includes a large variety of typically Aruban delicacies including a three star fish soup and a mouth-watering filet of fish served with a mild Aruban Creole sauce... a seafood lover's dream come true.

Opening hours: every day, but Tuesdays from 5pm till 10:30pm.



**Special of the month**  
 Every month the Chef treats his customers with a delicious dinner special. In June one may choose from different soups, fish cakes or salads to start with. The main

course is a choice of catch of the day (prepared your way), Jumbo Shrimp or for the meatlovers Filet Mignon or Chicken Breast. The evening is topped with a grand dessert and coffee or tea.

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our contemporary indoor dining room which includes a cozy lounge area or on the dining terrace overlooking the action at the new bustling Palm Beach Plaza. Spanokopitakia, brick oven baked filo pastries filled with Greek cheese and spinach, famous Tzaziki, a yogurt and cucumber dip, and popular Babaganoush and Hummus, with authentic pita bread, are some of our appetizers. For main courses our traditional

Moussaka is justly called, the best you will ever have, and our genuine Tunisian Couscous, loaded with merguez, chicken and lamb, is rivaled only by our Tenderloin, Lamb and Chicken kebabs. We pay homage to provincial cooking with our Grilled Whole Red Snapper, flavored with herbs de Provence, and our Mussels, taste the way they're served in the port of Marseille. Our thin crust Italian Pizza, needs no introduction, as it has earned a huge following in both our other restaurants, Casa Tua Pizzeria and Casa Tua Barcelona.

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At Aruba's Occidental Grand Resort

# Adianiz & Fabian celebrate love with marriage



OCCIDENTAL - Adianiz Garcia & Fabian Brizuela were married on August 10, 2010, barefoot on the beach with the sunset gently behind them as they said their vows and exchanged rings with one another. Rev. Geoffrey officiated the intimate ceremony as the beautiful ceremony was celebrated and witnessed by Fabian's Best Man Hector and the resort's Wedding Coordinator Kimberly



Dammerman. After the ceremony, they enjoyed a champagne toast and sunset photo shoot on the beach before going to the resort's signature restaurant for a gourmet Italian dinner with Moët Chandon for a private seating.

Adianiz and Fabian are now honeymooning on Aruba from Canada and are originally from Venezuela and Argentina, respectively. Congratulations from Occidental Grand Resort and Aruba Today

~ Photos by Julia Renfro ~







# Stem cells may hold key for fatal skin disease

By Gene Emery

BOSTON — High-risk bone marrow transplants partially cured five children with a potentially deadly genetic defect in which proteins that hold layers of skin together are absent, U.S. researchers said Wednesday. But one other child died from side effects of a drug used to prepare for a transplant and a second died from a post-transplant infection. People with recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa, or RDEB, are plagued by painful blisters on the skin, mouth and throat, caused by the slightest trauma that can expose the body to infection and, in some cases, an aggressive form of cancer. With the new treatment, “there was improved healing, fewer blisters, and their quality of life was positively affected.

They could do things they couldn’t do before, like ride a bicycle or go on a trampoline,” said Dr. John Wagner of the University of Minnesota, who worked on the study.

It was published in the New England Journal of Medicine. In addition, the patients’ improvement progressed with time, he said. All five children who survived showed improvement within 100 days, although the pace varied widely, he said in a telephone interview. Because of the high risks involved in bone marrow transplants, only the sickest patients with the rare condition -- affecting 1 in 50,000 -- have been considered candidates for a transplant, Wagner said. Wagner reported on results of the first seven attempts, which took place at the University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital. Six other children

have subsequently been treated with good results, he said.

Researchers are now trying to isolate the cells of the bone marrow best able to fix the defect and join layers of skin.

## HIGH COST

The treatment, including the cost of the transplant, is between \$500,000 to \$1 million. But routine care for children with the collagen defect already costs about \$30,000 a year and can rise due to frequent hospitalizations and complications of the disease.

“These kids have horrible pain, chronic infections of the skin, multiple hospitalizations, and systemic infections,” Wagner said.

“They frequently can’t eat or refuse to eat because of the pain. Often they die of chronic malnutrition and chronic blood

loss.”

Dr. Jakub Tolar, also of the University of Minnesota, said the treatment was unique because it showed that the effects of a bone marrow transplant can extend beyond the blood.

“What we have found is that stem cells contained in bone marrow can travel to sites of injured skin, leading to increased production of collagen, which is deficient in patients with RDEB,” Tolar, who worked on the study, said in a statement.

Dr. Lenna Bruckner-Tuderman of University Medical Center in Freiburg, Germany, said in a commentary that the therapy represented a leap forward but expressed caution.

Because the disease can wax and wane, “it is difficult to determine how much of the clinical improvement in the children was due to transplantation and how much was due to a long period of careful medical attention, protection from trauma, and standardized wound care,” Bruckner-Tuderman said. □

# UK doctors: New superbug gene could spread widely

LONDON — People traveling to India for medical procedures have brought back to Britain a new gene that allows any bacteria to become a superbug, and scientists are warning this type of drug resistance could soon appear worldwide. Though already widespread in India, the new superbug gene is being increasingly spotted in Britain and elsewhere. Experts warn the booming medical tourism industries in India and Pakistan could fuel a surge in antibiotic resistance, as patients import dangerous bugs to their home countries.

The superbug gene, which can be swapped between different bacteria to make them resistant to most drugs, has so far been identified in 37 people who returned to the U.K. after undergoing surgery in India or Pakistan.

The resistant gene has also been detected in Australia, Canada, the U.S., the Netherlands and Sweden. The researchers say since many Americans and Europeans travel to India and Pakistan for elective procedures like cosmetic surgery, it was likely the superbug gene would spread worldwide.

In an article published online Wednesday in

the journal Lancet Infectious Diseases, doctors reported finding a new gene, called NDM-1. The gene alters bacteria, making them resistant to nearly all known antibiotics. It has been seen largely in E. coli bacteria, the most common cause of urinary tract infections, and on DNA structures that can be easily copied and passed onto other types of bacteria.

The researchers said the superbug gene appeared to be already circulating widely in India, where the health system is much less likely to identify its presence or have adequate antibiotics to treat patients.

“The potential of NDM-1 to be a worldwide public health problem is great, and coordinated international surveillance is needed,” the authors wrote.

Still, the numbers of people who have been identified with the superbug gene remains very small. “We are potentially at the beginning of another wave of antibiotic resistance, though we still have the power to stop it,” said Christopher Thomas, a professor of molecular genetics at the University of Birmingham who was not linked to the study. □

## Repeated Ear Infections Seem to Plague White Kids, Poor Kids

White children and those in poor families are more likely to have repeated ear infections than other children, U.S. researchers have found.

Ear infection (also called otitis media) is one of the most common health problems in children. By the age of 3, more than 80 percent of children have had at least one ear infection. The cost of medical and surgical treatment of these infections is \$3 billion to \$5 billion a year in the United States.

About 4.65 million U.S. children suffer frequent ear infections each year, defined as more than three infections over 12 months, according to background information in the study by University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and Harvard University researchers.

The research team analyzed 1997-2006 data from the U.S. National Health Interview Survey and found that the rates of frequent ear infections were 7 percent for white children, 6.2 percent for Hispanic children, 5 percent for black children, and 4.5 percent for children of other racial or ethnic groups. The average age of the children in the study was 8.5 years.

The study authors also found that the rate of frequent ear infections among children in households below the poverty line was higher (8 percent) than that for those in families above the poverty line.

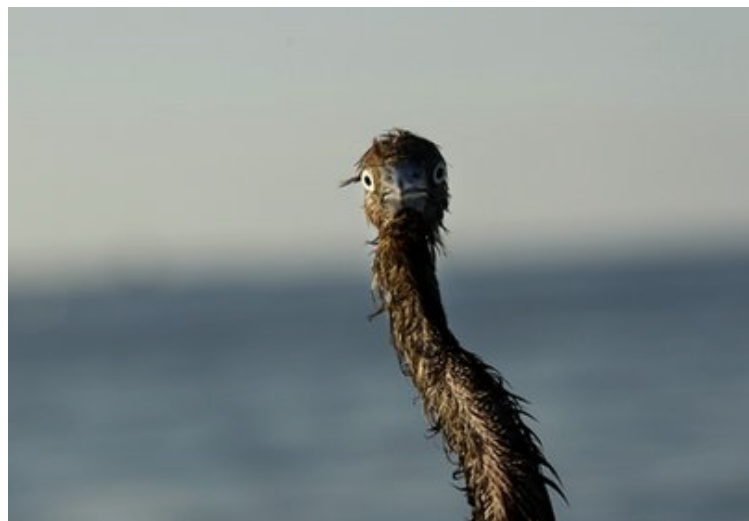
“The racial and ethnic disparity was somewhat surprising,” study co-author Dr. Nina Shapiro, director of pediatric otolaryngology at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA, said in a UCLA news release.

“We are not certain why these gaps exist, but possible explanations could include anatomic differences, cultural factors or disparate access to health care. It could also be that white children are overdiagnosed and non-white children are underdiagnosed,” she said.

The findings are published in the August issue of the journal Laryngoscope. □



# In La., signs of regrowth seen in oiled marshes



**FILE** -In this Saturday, June 26, 2010 file photo, a heavily-oiled bird is seen after being rescued from the waters of Barataria Bay, which are laden with oil from the Deepwater Horizon spill, in Plaquemines Parish, La. This bay that was the scene of the first startling images of oil-caked birds already has shoots of marsh grass and mangroves growing back. The marsh is healing itself.

(AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

By **CAIN BURDEAU**  
and **JEFFREY COLLINS**,  
Associated Press Writers  
**BARATARIA BAY, La.**  
— Shoots of marsh grass and  
bushes of mangrove trees  
already are starting to grow

back in the bay where just  
months ago photographers  
shot startling images of dying  
pelicans coated in oil from the  
massive Gulf oil spill.  
More than a dozen scientists  
interviewed by The Associated

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Press say the marsh here and across the Louisiana coast is healing itself, giving them hope delicate wetlands might weather the worst offshore spill in U.S. history better than they had feared. Some marshland could be lost, but the amount appears to be small compared with what the coast loses every year through human development.

On Tuesday, a cruise through the Barataria Bay marsh revealed thin shoots growing up out of the oiled mass of grass. Elsewhere, there were still gray, dead mangrove shrubs, likely killed by the oil, but even there new green growth was coming up.

“These are areas that were black with oil,” said Matt Boasso, a temporary worker with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

As crude from a blown-out BP well oozed toward the marshes after an April oil-rig explosion, experts had feared it would kill roots in marsh grass, smother the mangroves and ultimately dissolve wetlands that plant life was holding together. State, federal and BP cleanup efforts were focused on preventing that from happening by burning and skimming the oil, blocking it with booms and sand berms and breaking it up with chemical dispersants.

Whether it is a triumph of cleanup work, the marshes’ resiliency or both, scientists have reported regrowth of grasses, black mangrove trees and roseau cane, a lush, tall cane found in the brackish waters around the mouth of the Mississippi River.

“The marsh is coming back, sprigs are popping up,” said Alexander S. Kolker, a marsh expert and coastal geologist in Cocodrie, La., with the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium.

He’s working with a National Science Foundation team looking at the effect of the BP oil spill on Louisiana’s vast but severely stressed marshland — also known as the Cajun prairie — where trappers, shrimpers and alligator hunters have made their living for generations.

Louisiana, the state worst hit by the oil spill, is home to the vast majority of the northern Gulf’s marshland.

Coastal Louisiana is covered in a thick mat of salt marshes that thrive on the edge of the Gulf of Mexico, where land merges with the sea. The marshes provide life support for fauna and flora in the Gulf, said Bob Thomas, a zoologist at Loyola University, and up to 90 percent of commercial fisheries depend on them for some stage of fish development.

Young bull sharks, for example, make a beeline for Louisiana’s estuary to feed on catfish, bait fish and crabs, bulking up before returning offshore to pursue bigger meals, he said.

Many other Gulf species do the same thing. Blue crabs, menhaden and shrimp all come into the marsh to feed on the nutrient rich waters of the bays and marshes, where peaceful grazing is easier. Many freshwater bird species also come down to the marsh to feed, mature and nest.

Even before the spill, south Louisiana had been losing about 25 square miles of marshland a year, a total of about 2,300 square miles since the 1930s, mostly due to levee construction, logging, shipping and oil drilling. Only about 5,300 square miles of marsh and swamp remain in the state.

Louisiana accounts for about 30 percent of the nation’s coastal marsh and about 90 percent of its marsh loss, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

Associated Press calculations based on how much coastline government scientists say was affected by the oil spill indicate that at most 3.4 square miles of Louisiana marshland was oiled, an area stretched out over hundreds of miles of coastline. At least some of those areas appear to have begun to bounce back.

Ivor van Heerden, a BP-hired environmental scientist, said the damage may be even less than that. He said federal, state and BP oil spill survey teams have found only 550 acres of

marsh that have been oiled, less than 1 square mile.

“In all sectors the plants have continued to grow, even in the very worst areas,” he said.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration concurred with van Heerden’s figure but said it and other federal agencies are still calculating just how much marsh was oiled and what the effect has been, said agency spokesman Ben Sherman.

Marshland closest to the Gulf took the worst of the spill, absorbing oil and keeping it from oozing farther inland. Even losing a little of it would be a blow to the ecosystem.

Michael Blum, a Louisiana State University biologist who toured the marsh of Barataria Bay on Tuesday, said some of the grass won’t stick around much longer.

“You’re seeing exposed roots,” he said. “The expectation is that you will have loss of the protective sheet, you have marsh that anchors the marsh in place, and if they die off they no longer have that anchor.”

He added: “There’s the possibility that land loss will be accelerated, or there will be a pulse of land loss associated with the BP oil spill. The question is how much and where.”

Many other questions remain about how much environmental damage the spill inflicted. Scientists want to understand the effects of the chemical dispersants BP used to break up the oil and look more closely at how the smallest forms of life, things like fiddler crabs and spiders, have been affected.

“This is sort of the initial macroscopic view,” said Tom Bianchi, an oceanographer and marsh expert at Texas A&M University working with the National Science Foundation team.

He said water from the oiled marsh showed problems. “We did see some particulates, silts and clays coming out of the marsh, clogging our filters,” Bianchi said. That, he added, was a sign of marsh death, which could weaken the soil and lead to erosion. □





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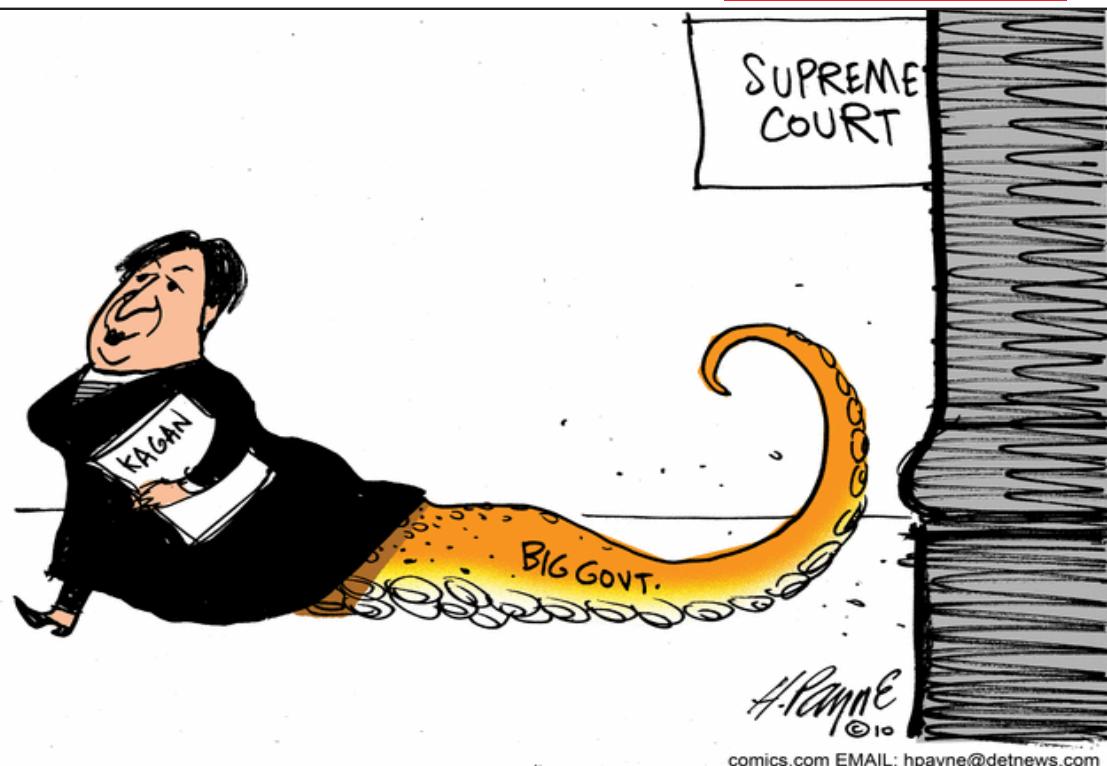
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# Judge Walker's tyranny ans American democracy

By Maggie Gallagher

What do we make of U.S. District Judge Vaughn Walker's ruling that overturned Proposition 8 - approved by California's voters (twice!) and defining marriage as one man and one woman? This morning, an odd trio of congressional Republicans, Rep. Lamar Smith of Texas, Rep. Steve King of Iowa and the indefatigable Rep. Michelle Bachman of Minnesota, introduced a resolution condemning Walker's ruling, which tossed out the votes of 7 million Californians and inserted gay marriage into the heart of our Constitution.

Smith, while conservative, has not been a brickthrower. Minnesota's Bachman is a national leader of the Tea Party movement (which the press likes to claim doesn't care about gay marriage). And King is the conscience of Iowa, a state where the majority clearly does not favor gay marriage, but has been deprived of the opportunity to vote because one gay man, Tim Gill, has funneled beaucoup bucks into Iowa politics and persuaded the Democrats who control the Iowa House of Representatives, the Senate and the governorship to block a marriage amendment by stealth -- i.e., by preventing a vote in the Legislature.

The Smith-King-Bachman resolution reads, in part:

"Whereas every state whose voters have considered the issue prohibits same-sex marriage; Whereas three states have redefined traditional marriage only because the redefinition has been ordered by a court. ... Whereas Judge Walker failed to conduct himself in an impartial manner during the course of the proceedings that resulted in such ruling. ... Whereas if a handful of activists

are allowed to void a constitutional amendment protecting marriage, we have eliminated the core of the American democratic system and will deny more children the mom and the dad they deserve. ... Whereas the most important issue in the (Perry v. Schwarzenegger) case is whether our government is of, by, and for the people ... Chief United States District Judge Vaughn R. Walker's decision to strike down California's popularly enacted Proposition 8 is wrong and should be appealed."

Many other Republicans have been conspicuously silent, scared off by the threat of mainstream media torture and the increasingly aggressive use of gay power to block donations to any politician who dares to speak for the majority on marriage. Kudos to these three who are speaking up for the American people and our Constitution.

In a few weeks the Republicans will produce a document that purports to lay bare core GOP principles. Do they care enough about principle to stand against Walker's judicial tyranny, his outrageous attempt to brand decent, good Americans as hateful and irrational bigots because they voted for marriage as one man and one woman? We shall see.

But, I suspect they won't. I remember how the Republican establishment responded in the early days to the abortion issue. I remember how the wives (like Cindy McCain) were outraged that their husbands could be so backward as to oppose abortion rights. Too many pols see the wind now at their backs and will succumb to the temptation to dodge the tough bullet -- to avoid the media hit and the gay rights' dollars. Who will have the courage to speak for the majority here and our constitutional system of government?

I suspect it will not be the GOP establishment.

That will be a disappointment but no big surprise.

American politics are in a quasi-revolutionary phase.

The people, symbolized first in the eruptions of Tea Parties, are rebelling against elites who believe they can ignore our voices and our values.

Establishment figures may mute their voices, try to dodge and to split the difference, but California's Tom Campbell, New York's Dede Scozzafava and, most recently, New Hampshire's Bill Binnie (tanking in the polls in his race for the GOP's Senate nod in the midst of National Organization for Marriage and Cornerstone ads highlighting his pro-gay marriage views) are all pro-gay marriage GOP candidates who've run into the limits of what spin and media approval can do for them.

Rush Limbaugh had his finger on the truth. In the nearly half-hour speech he gave after the Proposition 8 ruling ("the American people are boiling over!"), Rush said that Walker "did not just slap down the will of 7 million voters. Those 7 million voters were put on trial -- a kangaroo court where everything was stacked against them. ... Those of you who voted for Prop 8 in California are guilty of hate crimes. You were thinking discrimination. That's what this judge has said! Truly unprecedented."

Yes, it is. We are entering into a new phase in the battle not only for marriage, but for self-government, for the legitimacy of the views and values of the Ameircan people.

This is a fight we cannot dodge, and must and will win.

Buckle down, it's going to be a ride! □

## Read ARUBA TODAY every day



# Fidel Castro cumple 84 recuperado pero lejos de política interna

LA HABANA (Reuters) - El ex presidente cubano Fidel Castro cumple 84 años el viernes, recuperado de la enfermedad que lo apartó del poder en el 2006 y con reapariciones en público que dispararon especulaciones sobre su influencia política.

El anciano guerrillero que gobernó Cuba durante casi medio siglo y que a menudo confundió a 10 presidentes de Estados Unidos, ha hecho poco por disipar las dudas.

“Lo mío es decir las cosas y los acontecimientos para que cada cual decida”, dijo en una entrevista con la televisión estatal venezolana divulgada esta semana.

“Los compañeros no son gente que yo deba llevar del dedo, de la mano a hacer las cosas y lo que quiero es que piensen”, comentó aludiendo al Gobierno de su hermano el presidente Raúl Castro.

Fidel Castro parece dedicar hoy gran parte de su energía a alertar sobre una catástrofe nuclear si, como él cree, Estados Unidos e Israel atacaran a Irán, una batalla lejana para muchos cubanos. “Es un ícono y lo sabe”,

opinó Christopher Sabatini, un experto del Council of the Americas en Washington.

“Pese a ser sólo una sombra de lo que fue, tanto física como políticamente, todos lo miramos y tratamos de leer sus mensajes secretos como si fuera una especie de profeta”, dijo.

## OBSERVADORES CONFUNDIDOS

Aunque en el último mes aparece en televisión casi día por medio, Fidel Castro se mantiene cuidadosamente alejado de los asuntos domésticos, dejando en manos de Raúl la difícil tarea de sacar a Cuba de la crisis económica.

“Para mí está muy claro el papel de Fidel: No ha dicho una palabra de las cuestiones internas del país, eso le corresponde al Gobierno. Lo suyo es la situación internacional”, dijo Edilberto Morales, un jubilado en La Habana.

Nadie espera que regrese al poder, pero la recuperación del hombre que dominó la política cubana genera ruido en momentos en que Raúl

Castro anuncia la apertura de nuevos espacios a la iniciativa privada, su paso más arriesgado en cuatro años.

“Las frecuentes apariciones del ex presidente Fidel Castro introducen confusión en el cálculo de los agentes económicos”, dijo el analista político Arturo López Levy, de la University of Denver.

“En el análisis de muchos observadores, como mínimo, la reaparición frecuente del líder revolucionario cohibiría a los propulsores de mayores reformas de hacer explícita su agenda de cambios, retrasando el ritmo de los ajustes”, sostuvo.

Muchos analistas perciben a Fidel Castro como un guardián ideológico del sistema que edificó tras su revolución de 1959, menos inclinado que su hermano a introducir reformas graduales para echar a andar la economía cubana.

Raúl, un general con fama de pragmático, dio pasos para intentar aumentar la productividad, reducir el imponente peso del Estado y darle cierta independencia al

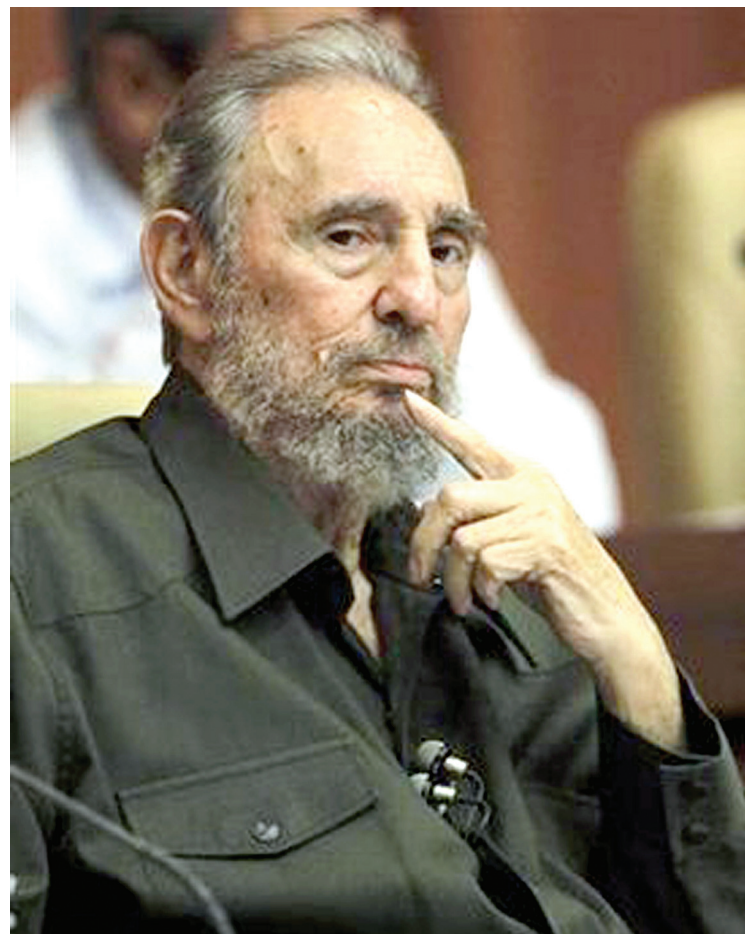


Imagen de archivo del ex presidente cubano Fidel Castro, durante una reunión de la Asamblea Nacional, en La Habana. Ago 7 2010. REUTERS/Desmond Boylan/ARCHIVO

sector privado. los hermanos. Tienen, Funcionarios cubanos han aseguran, simplemente estilos negado divisiones entre diferentes.

## Brasil difundirá apariciones de OVNI

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) - La fuerza aérea brasileña llevará en adelante un registro de todas las apariciones de objetos voladores no identificados, el cual estará a disposición de los investigadores, se informó el miércoles.

Un decreto publicado en el boletín oficial del gobierno dijo que la fuerza aérea llevará el registro de denuncias de OVNI por parte de pilotos comerciales y militares, así como de controladores aéreos.

Los datos, sean denuncias escritas, fotos o video, pasarán previamente por el centro de documentación de la fuerza aérea. Un vocero de la fuerza aérea dijo que los documentos, una vez catalogados, irán al Archivo Nacional en Río de Janeiro, donde el material es accesible al público en general.

En el decreto firmado por el brigadier Juniti Saito, la fuerza aérea dice que enviará “periódicamente” informes al centro de documentación. □

## Siguen protestas en Bolivia, paralizan mina japonesa

LA PAZ (AP) - La mayor empresa minera de Bolivia, filial de la japonesa Sumitomo, paralizó operaciones el miércoles después que manifestantes tomaran una planta eléctrica y amenazaran con cortar el suministro, en medio de duras protestas contra el presidente Evo Morales.

El ministro de Minería, José Pimental, dijo el miércoles que “la Empresa Minera San Cristobal paralizó su producción ante cualquier riesgo, pero no suspendió sus labores y está realizando sólo mantenimiento”.

Aclaró que aún no se interrumpió el suministro eléctrico a la mina. La hidroeléctrica tomada también abastece a la región. En la misma rueda de prensa, el ministro de Gobierno, Sacha Llorenti, denunció que “sectores radicalizados estarían planificando tomar las instalaciones de la policía y de un cuartel”.

“El gobierno no caerá en provocaciones y lamentamos que quieran resolver el conflicto

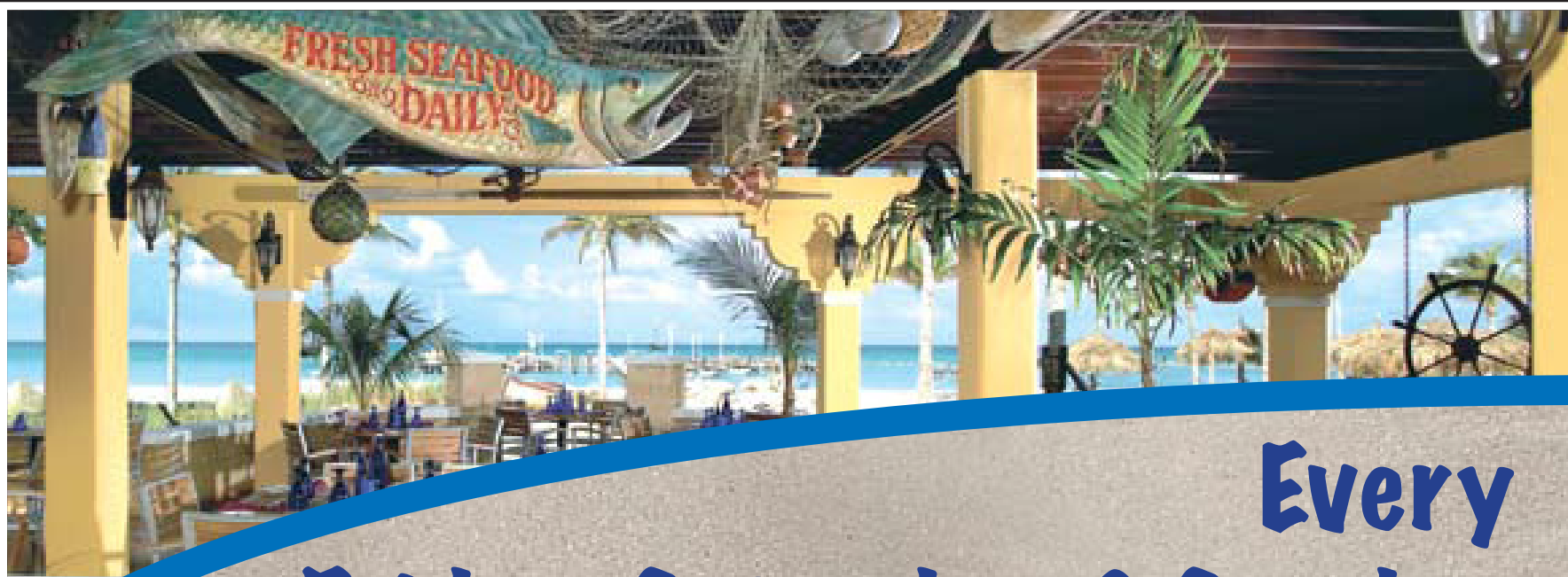
no a través del diálogo, sino por el desastre”, dijo.

San Cristobal pierde dos millones de dólares por día, dijo Pimentel. La mina a tajo abierto produce concentrados de plomo, plata y zinc. Está al sur del departamento de Potosí, que desde hace 15 días mantiene una dura huelga contra el gobierno por reivindicaciones regionales.

Las rutas de acceso y salida a la región han sido tomadas. La ciudad de Potosí, a 430 kilómetros al sur de La Paz, está aislada, paralizada y desabastecida de alimentos.

Más de medio millar de vehículos siguen varados en las carreteras bloqueadas, con temperaturas bajo cero. El comercio, la banca, la industria y las labores escolares fueron interrumpidas. La protesta se masificó en los últimos días con huelgas de hambre en oficinas y calles, ante la negativa del gobierno de negociar bajo presión. □





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